

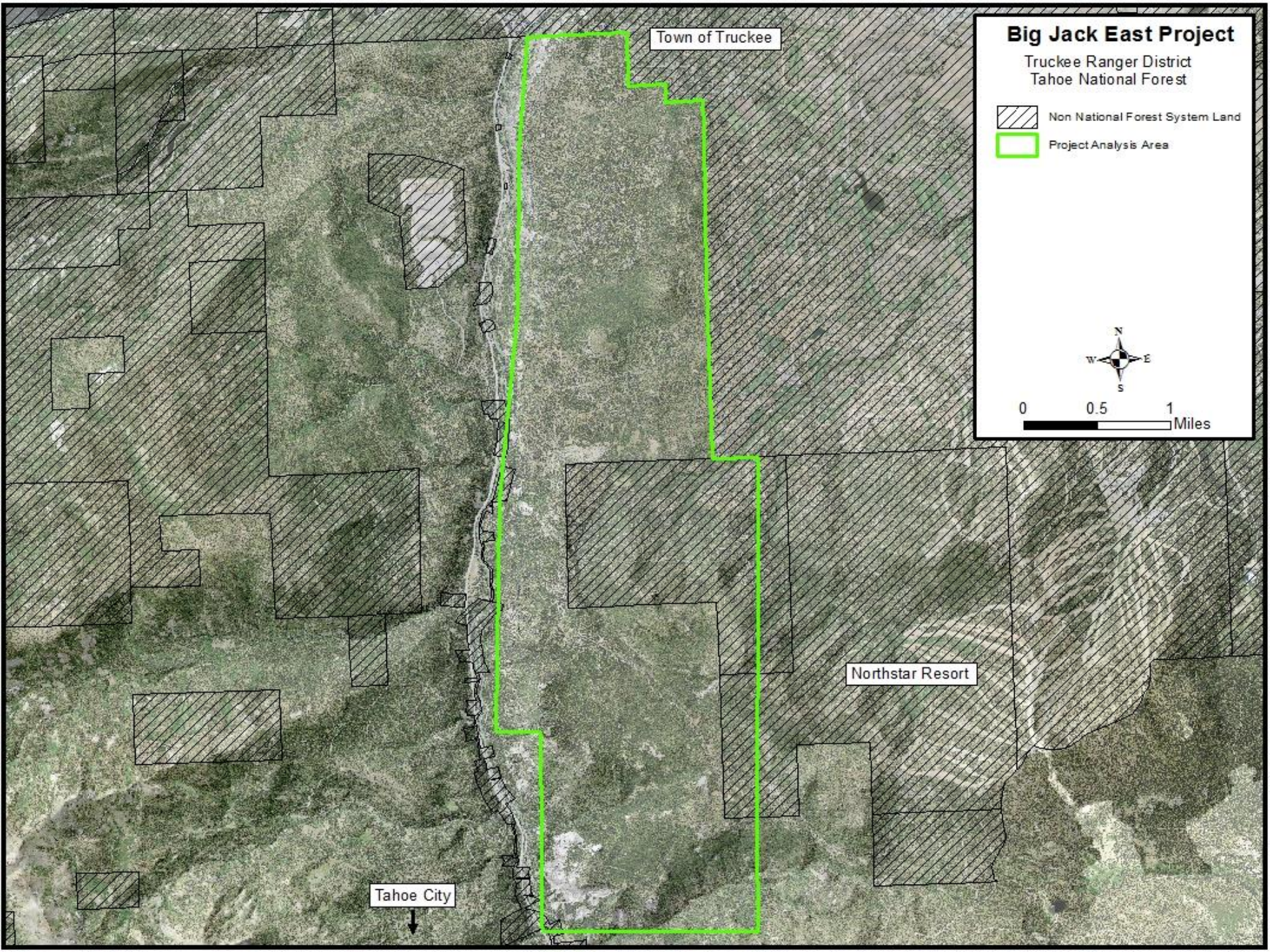
# Landscape LiDAR and Managing Forests at Multiple Scales

a Tahoe National Forest case study

- ▣ Current assessments
  - Visualizations
  - Applying coarse datasets to project planning
- ▣ Tahoe National Forest LiDAR
  - Visualizations
  - “EcObject” vegetation mapping
  - LiDAR informed landscape assessment
  - LiDAR aided project layout, surveys, and treatment effects modeling
- ▣ Conclusions
- ▣ Next Steps









# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Non National Forest System Land
-  Project Analysis Area



0 0.5 1 Miles

Town of Truckee

Northstar Resort

Tahoe City




# Big Jack East Project

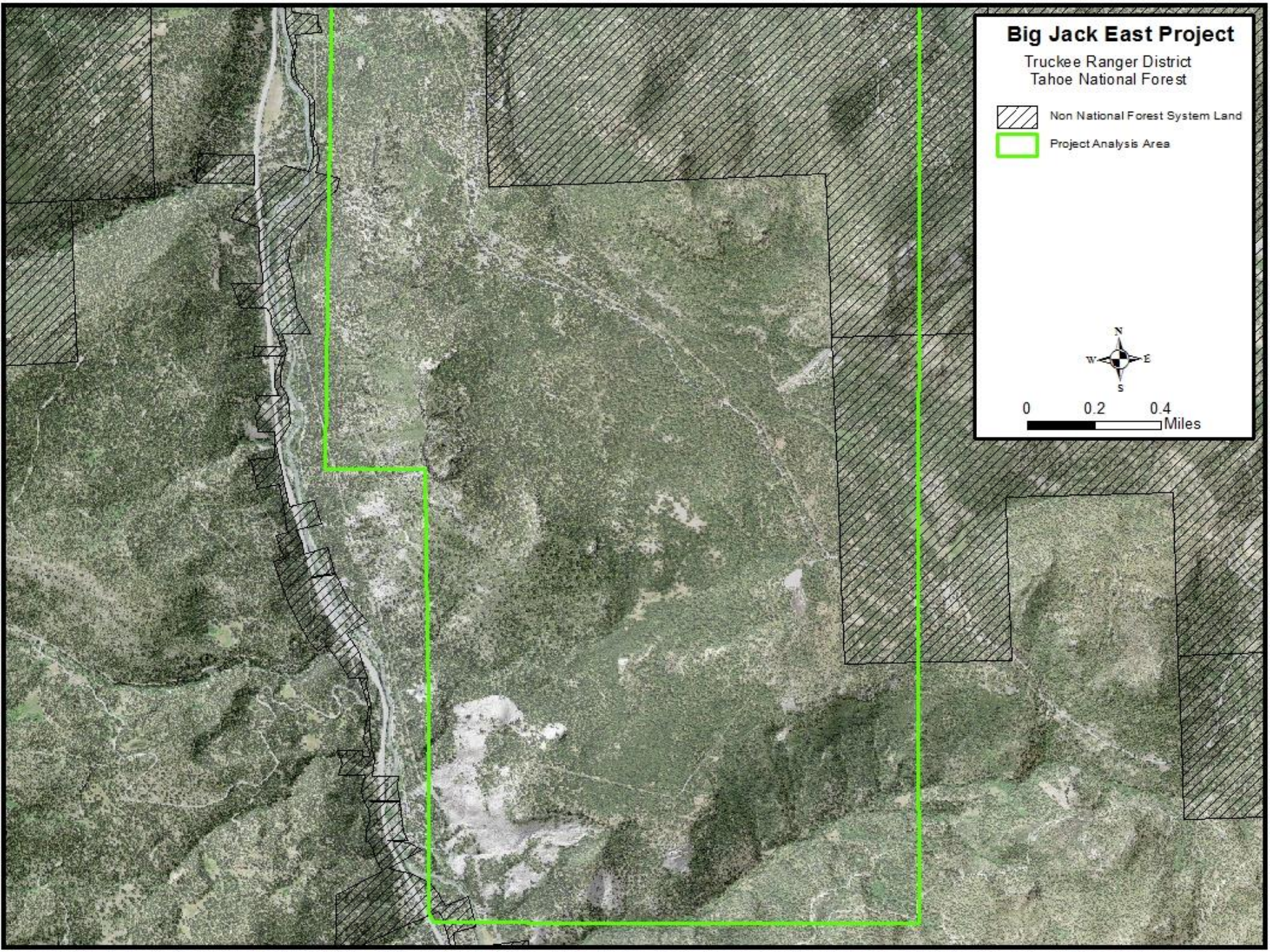
Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

 Non National Forest System Land

 Project Analysis Area



0 0.2 0.4  
 Miles









6-28-39

C.D.J. 13-58










# Big Jack East Project

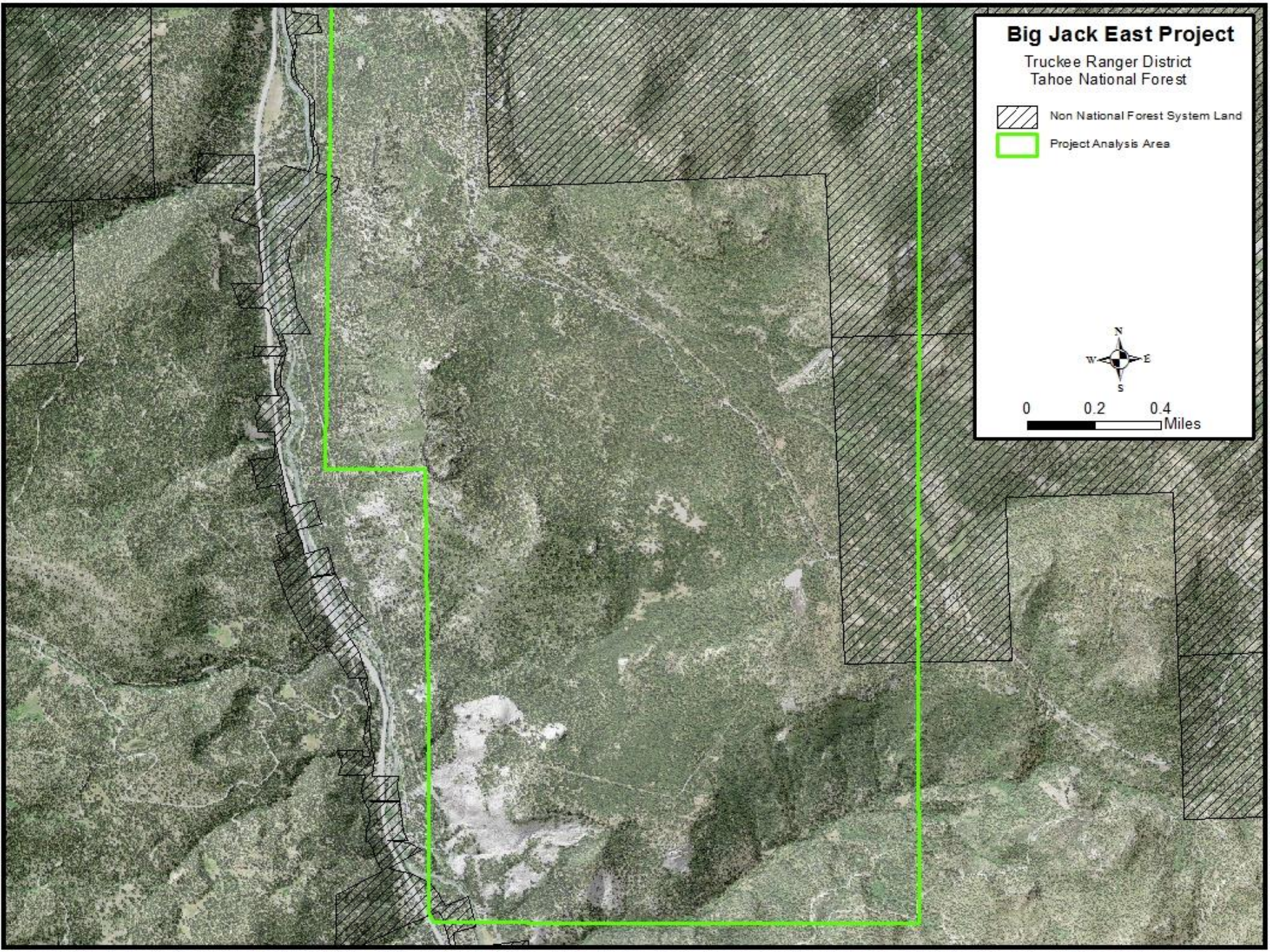
Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

 Non National Forest System Land

 Project Analysis Area






0 0.2 0.4  
 Miles





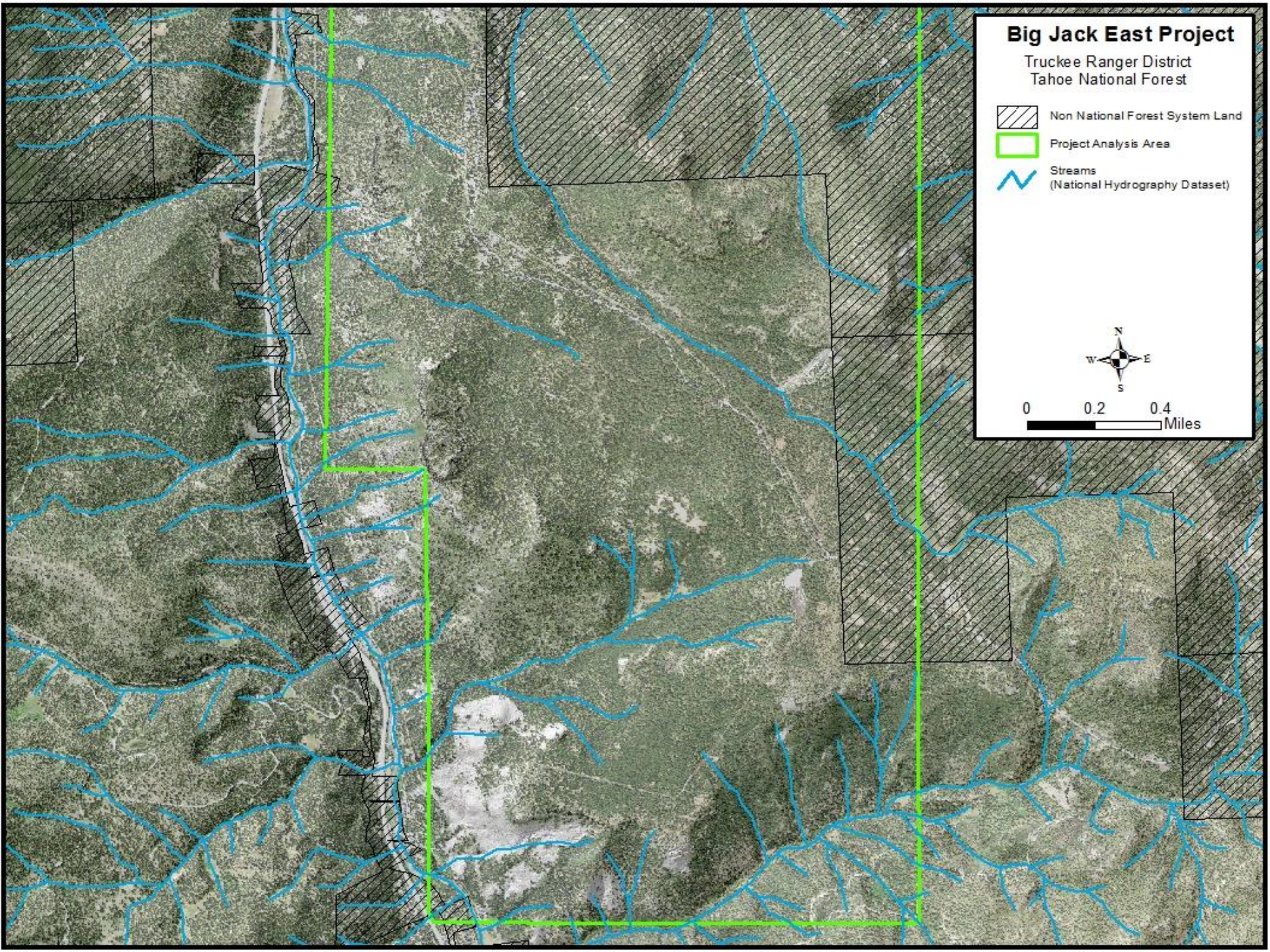
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Non National Forest System Land
-  Project Analysis Area
-  Streams  
(National Hydrography Dataset)







0 0.2 0.4  
Miles





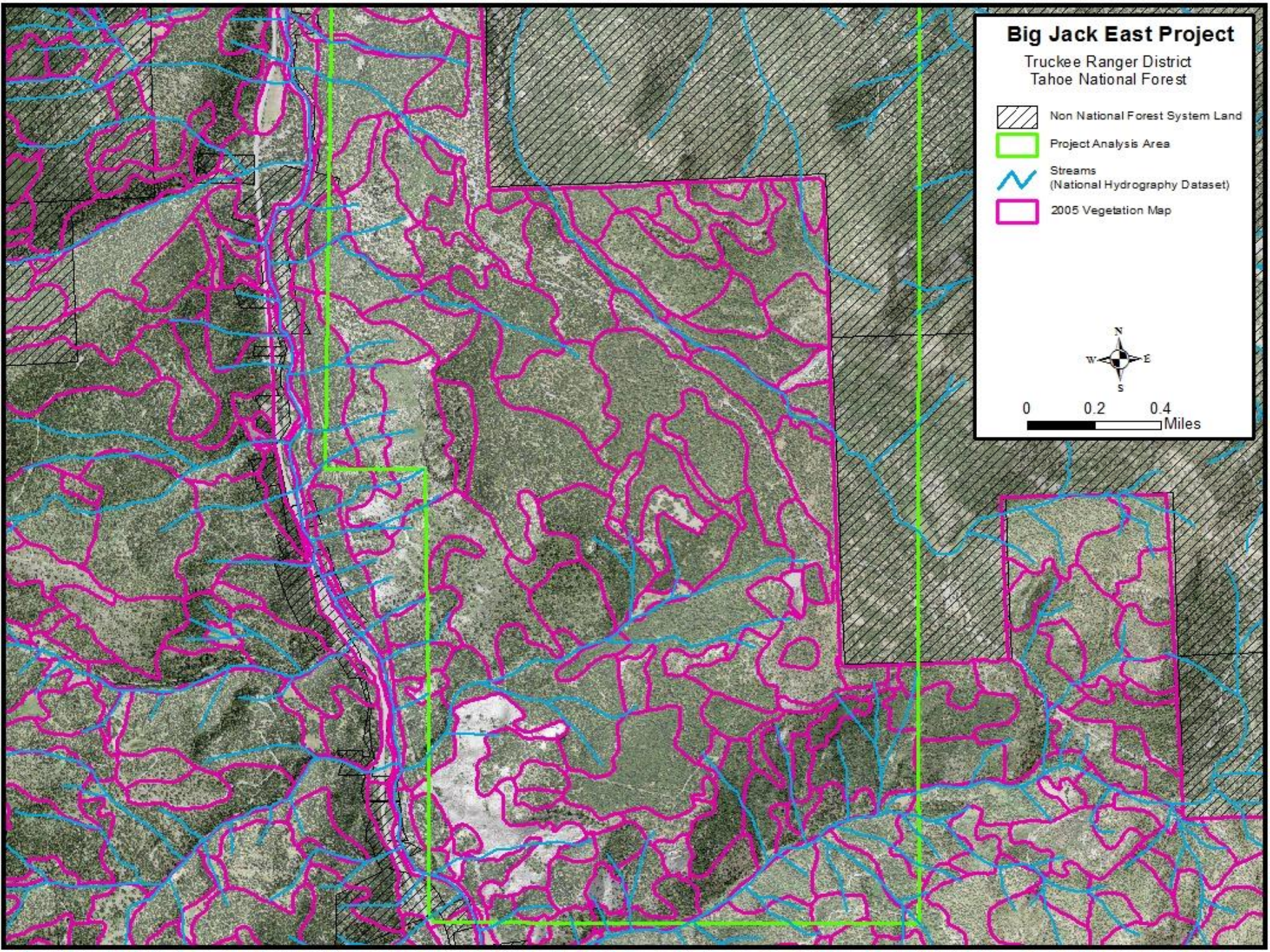
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Non National Forest System Land
-  Project Analysis Area
-  Streams  
(National Hydrography Dataset)
-  2005 Vegetation Map



0 0.2 0.4  
Miles





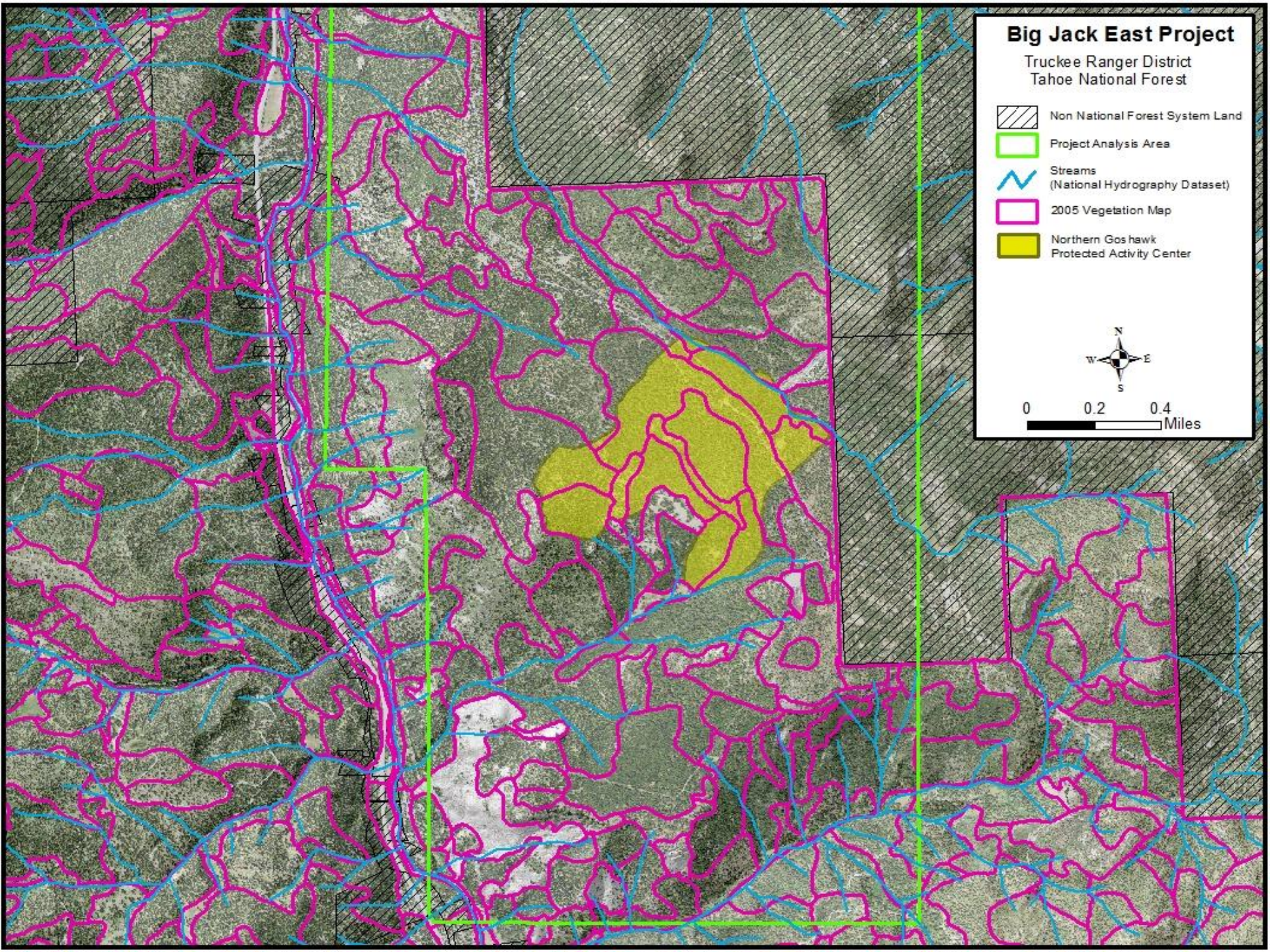
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Non National Forest System Land
-  Project Analysis Area
-  Streams  
(National Hydrography Dataset)
-  2005 Vegetation Map
-  Northern Goshawk  
Protected Activity Center



0 0.2 0.4  
Miles





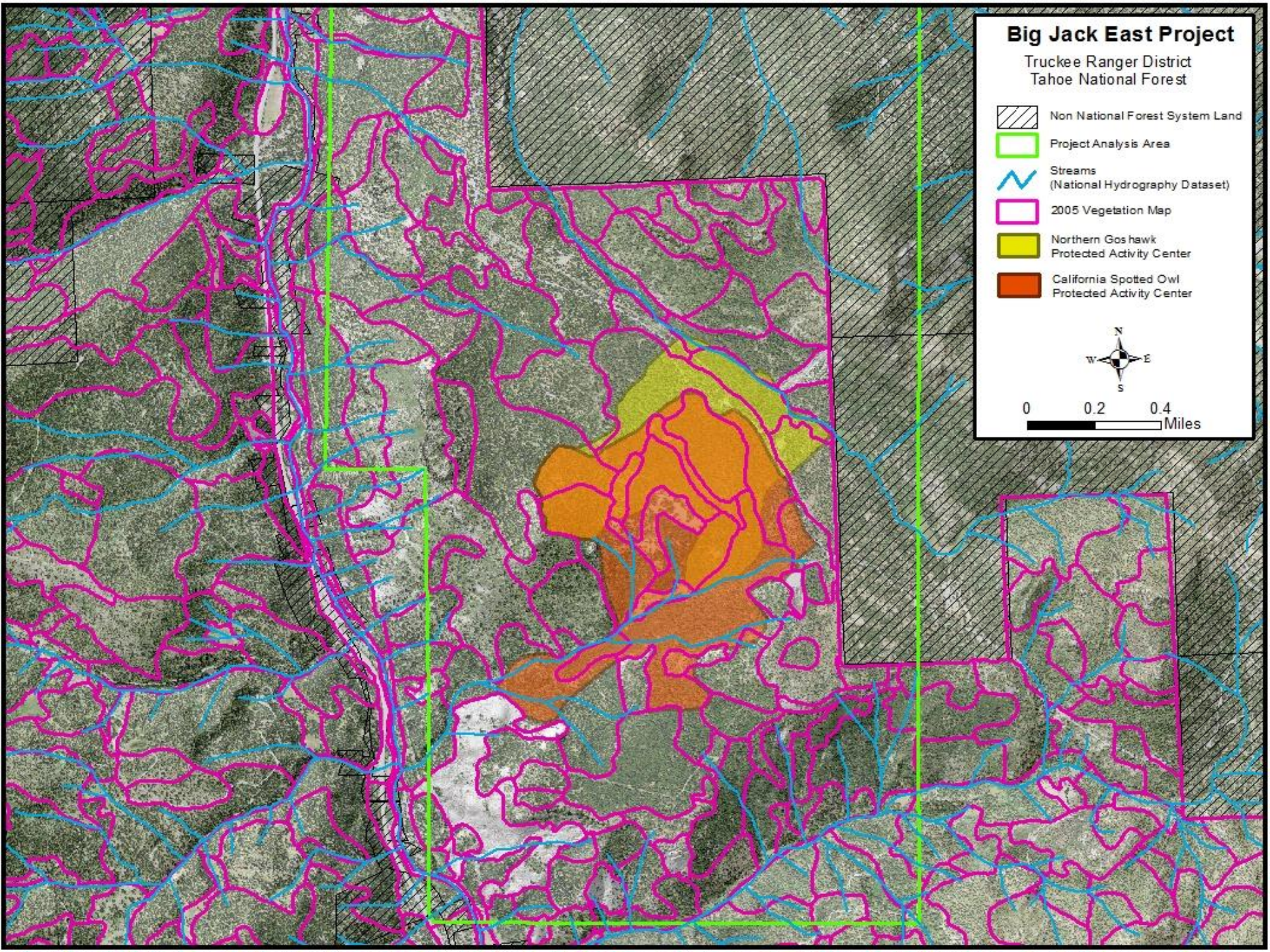
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Non National Forest System Land
-  Project Analysis Area
-  Streams  
(National Hydrography Dataset)
-  2005 Vegetation Map
-  Northern Goshawk  
Protected Activity Center
-  California Spotted Owl  
Protected Activity Center



0 0.2 0.4  
Miles





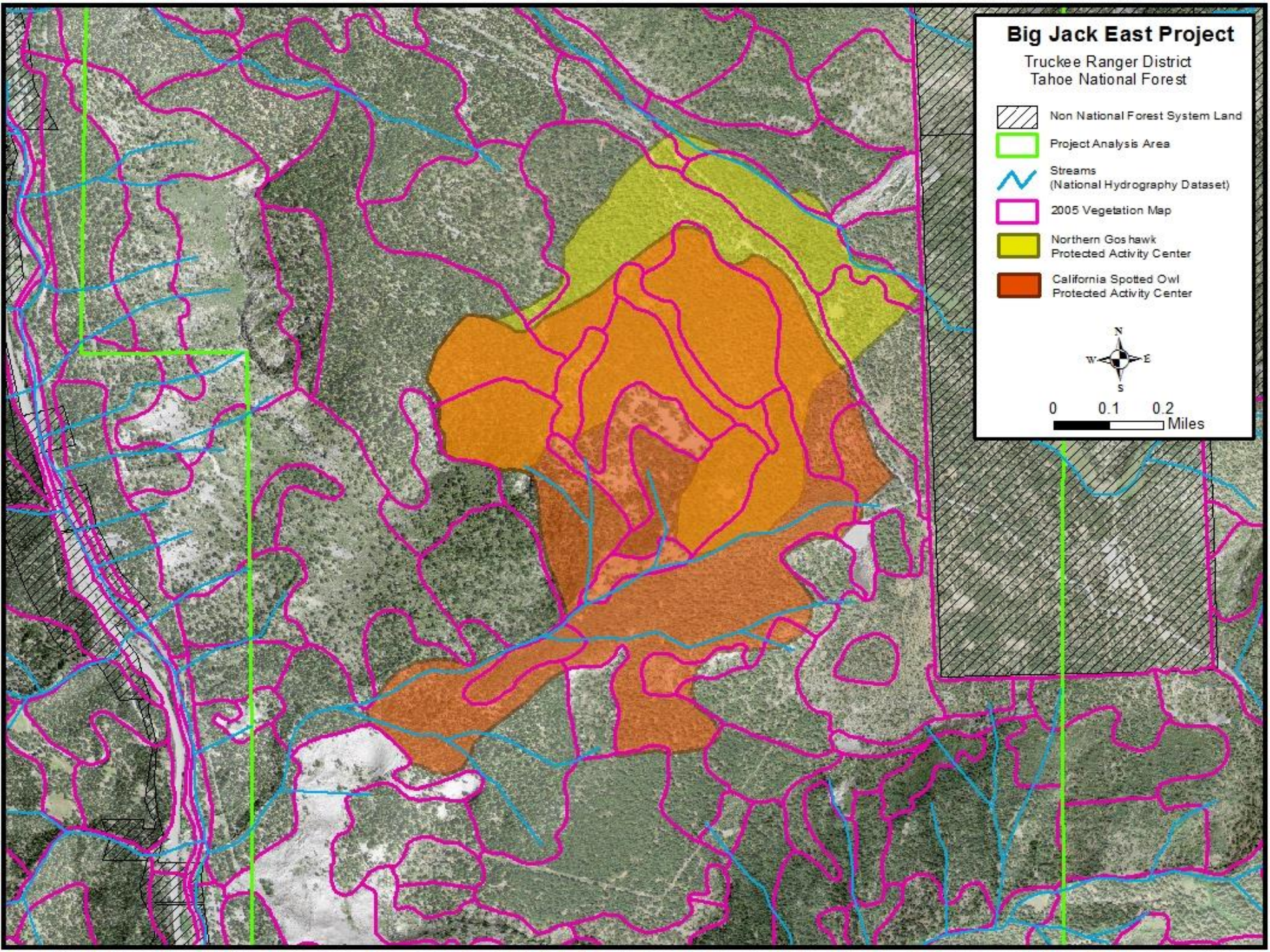
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Non National Forest System Land
-  Project Analysis Area
-  Streams  
(National Hydrography Dataset)
-  2005 Vegetation Map
-  Northern Goshawk  
Protected Activity Center
-  California Spotted Owl  
Protected Activity Center



0 0.1 0.2  
Miles





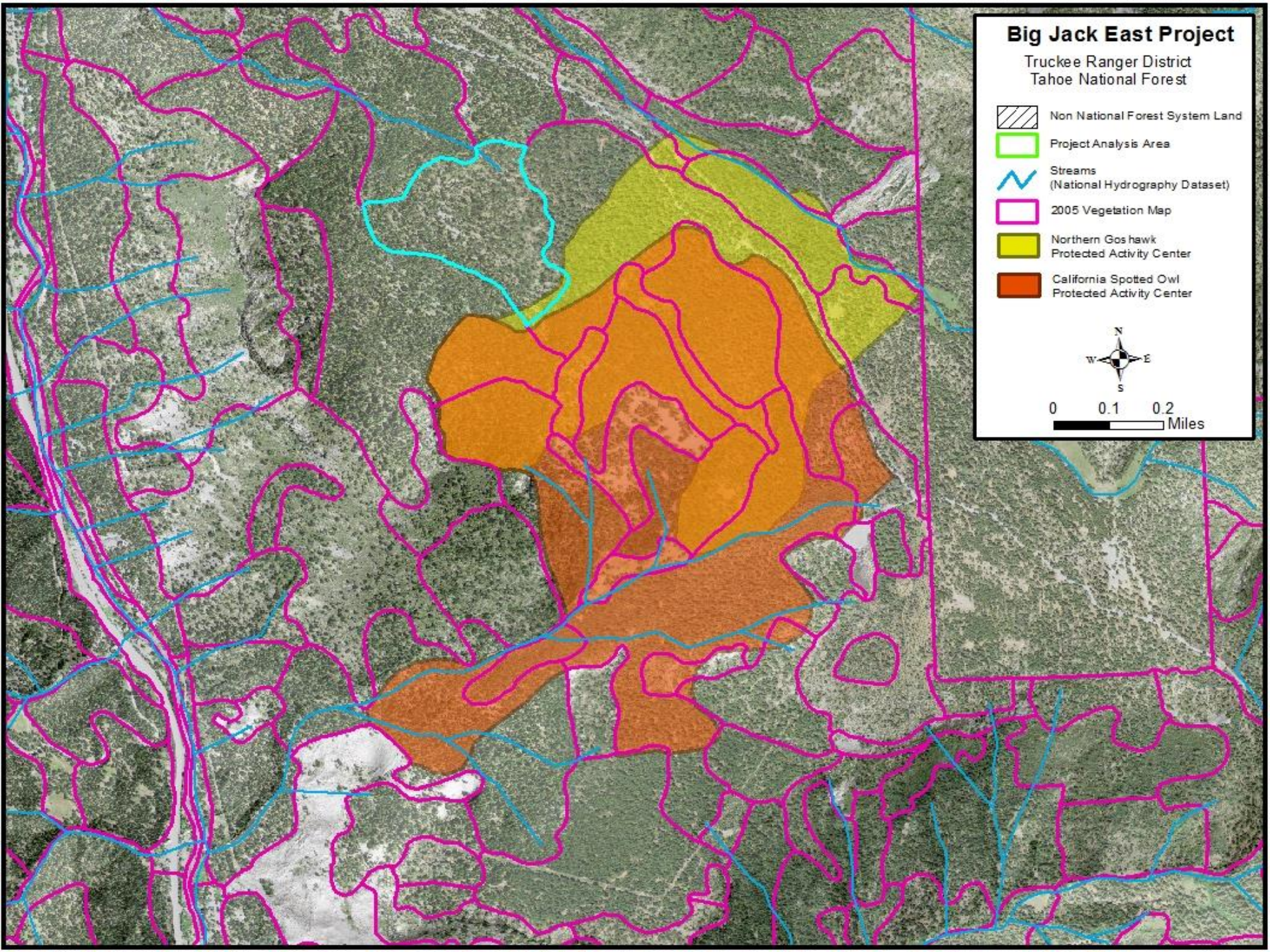
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Non National Forest System Land
-  Project Analysis Area
-  Streams  
(National Hydrography Dataset)
-  2005 Vegetation Map
-  Northern Gos hawk  
Protected Activity Center
-  California Spotted Owl  
Protected Activity Center



0 0.1 0.2  
Miles





## Stand Condition Example

- Includes portion of NGO PAC
- Minimum amount of drainages
- Dominated by "mixed conifer – pine"
- Dominant trees avg DBH = 11 – 23.9"
- Canopy Cover  $\geq 60\%$
- 42 acres

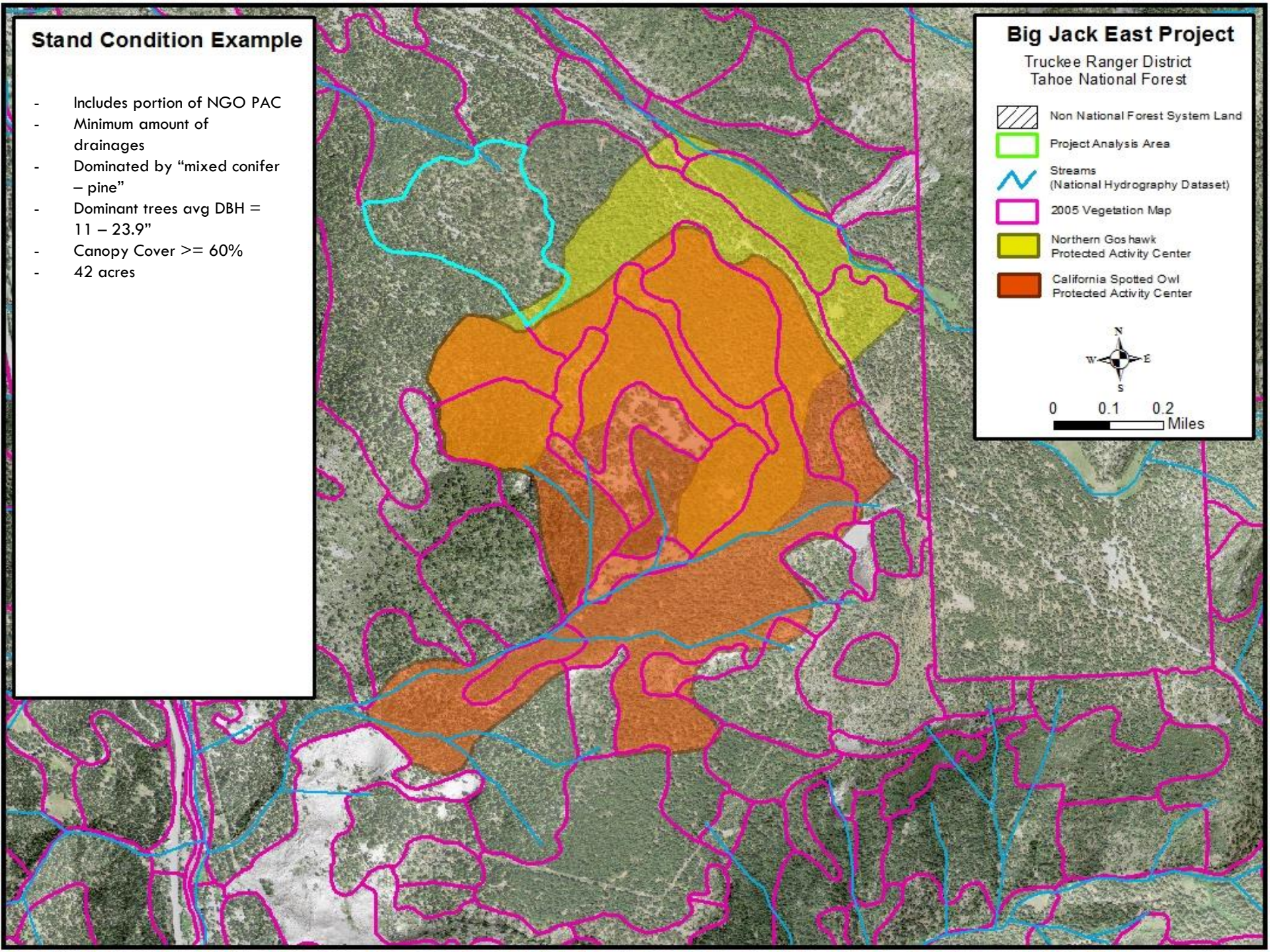
## Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

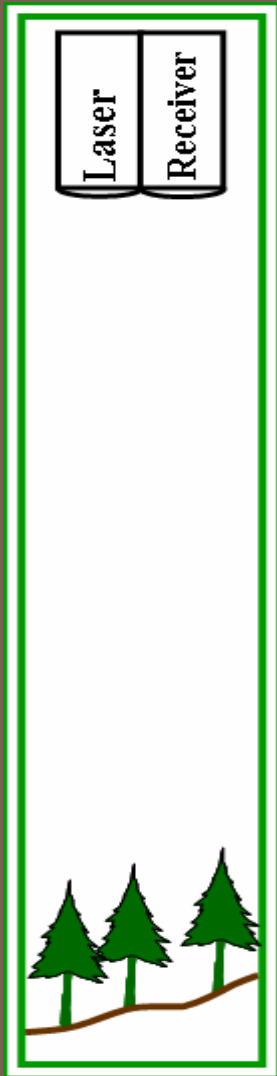
-  Non National Forest System Land
-  Project Analysis Area
-  Streams  
(National Hydrography Dataset)
-  2005 Vegetation Map
-  Northern Goshawk  
Protected Activity Center
-  California Spotted Owl  
Protected Activity Center



0 0.1 0.2  
Miles







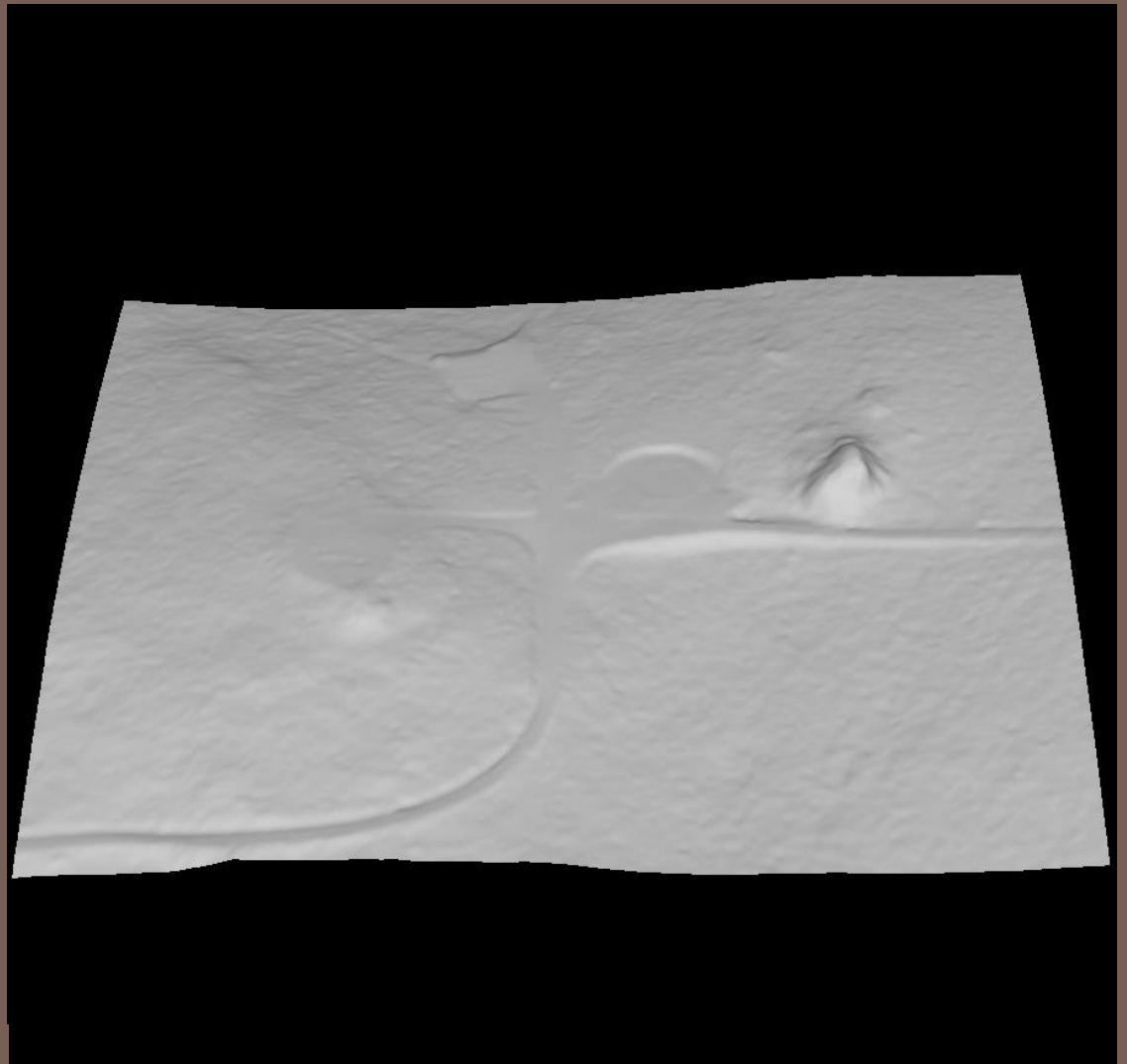
## LIDAR -- Li**g**ht **D**etection and **R**anging

- Measures distances (through laser pulses) that strike and reflect from features on the surface of the earth.
- Converts scanning angle and distance-from-sensor information into georeferenced data points
- Collects 100-500 thousand positions/second ('point clouds')



# Lidar data =

- Precisely referenced points in time and space
- Creates a “point cloud” can extract:
  - structures
  - vegetation
  - ground
  - rivers, roads, archeologic, etc.





# Tahoe National Forest LiDAR

- 1.3 million acres flown in 2013/2014
- ~ \$ 1 million
  - cost share between USFS & USGS
- 10-12 pulses per square meter
- 14 terabytes of data









# EcObject Vegetation Mapping

- Individual trees extracted from LiDAR (Objects)



## Credits:

Bob McGaughey – USFS Pacific Northwest Research Station  
University of Washington  
Kirk Evans – USFS Remote Sensing Lab

Carlos Ramirez – USFS Remote Sensing Lab  
Tanya Kohler – USFS Remote Sensing Lab  
Rodney Hart – USFS Remote Sensing Lab  
Christine Chu – USFS Remote Sensing Lab





Credits:  
Kirk Evans – USFS Remote Sensing Lab  
Carlos Ramirez – USFS Remote Sensing Lab





Credits:

Kirk Evans – USFS Remote Sensing Lab

Carlos Ramirez – USFS Remote Sensing Lab





Credits:

Kirk Evans – USFS Remote Sensing Lab

Carlos Ramirez – USFS Remote Sensing Lab



# EcObject Vegetation Mapping

- Individual trees extracted from LiDAR (Objects)
- Aggregated by stand and tree-level “ecological” relationships into polygons (EcObjets)



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Rodney Hart – USFS Remote Sensing Lab  
Christine Chu – USFS Remote Sensing Lab





Credits:

Kirk Evans – USFS Remote Sensing Lab

Carlos Ramirez – USFS Remote Sensing Lab



# EcObject Vegetation Mapping

- Individual trees extracted from LiDAR (Objects)
- Aggregated by stand and tree-level “ecological” relationships into polygons (EcObjects)



- EcObjects are populated with a collection of forest metrics compiled from a suite of multidimensional datasets



## Credits:

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University of Washington  
Kirk Evans – USFS Remote Sensing Lab

Carlos Ramirez – USFS Remote Sensing Lab  
Tanya Kohler – USFS Remote Sensing Lab  
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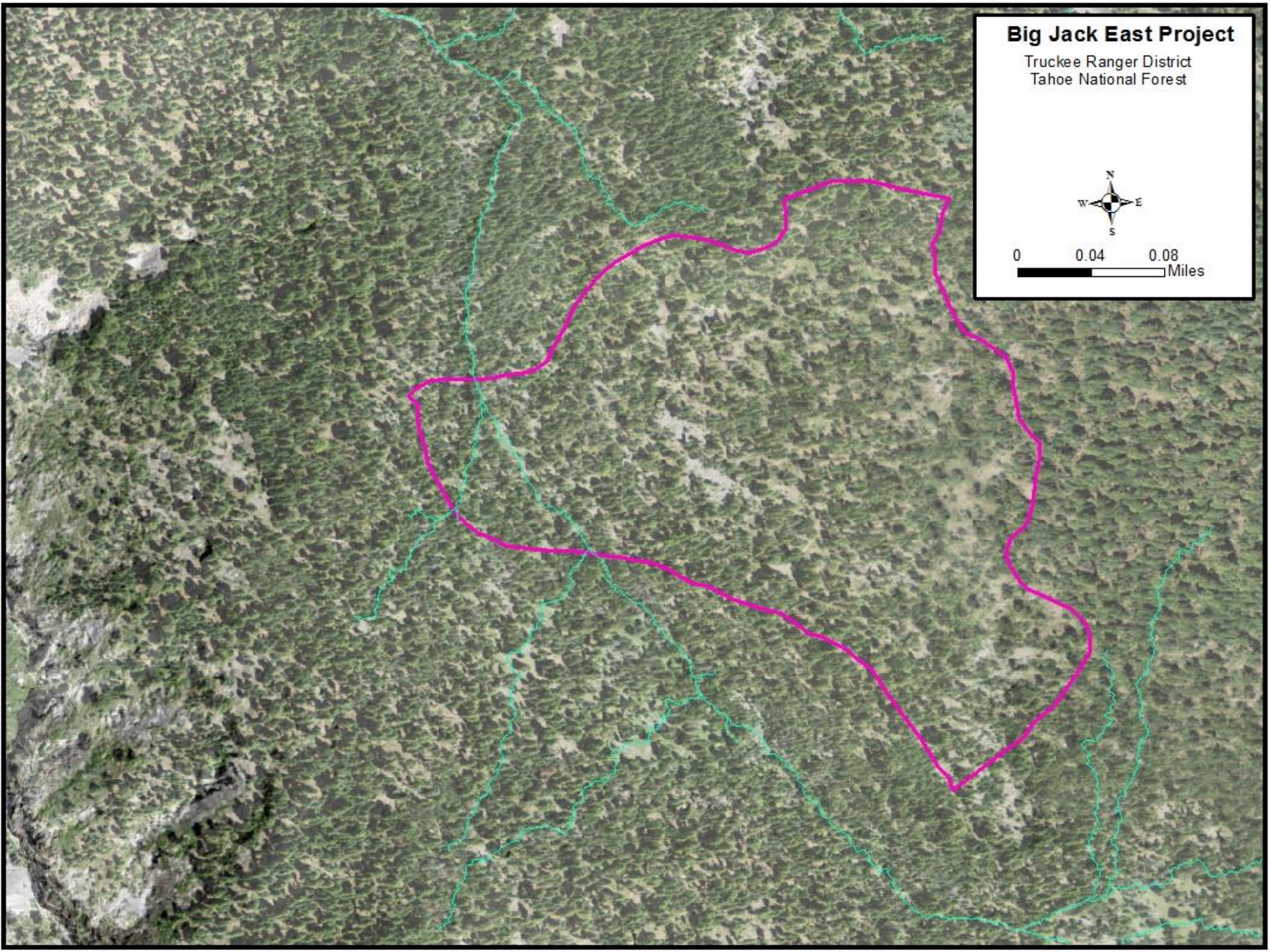


# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest



0 0.04 0.08  
Miles





# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

 EcObjects

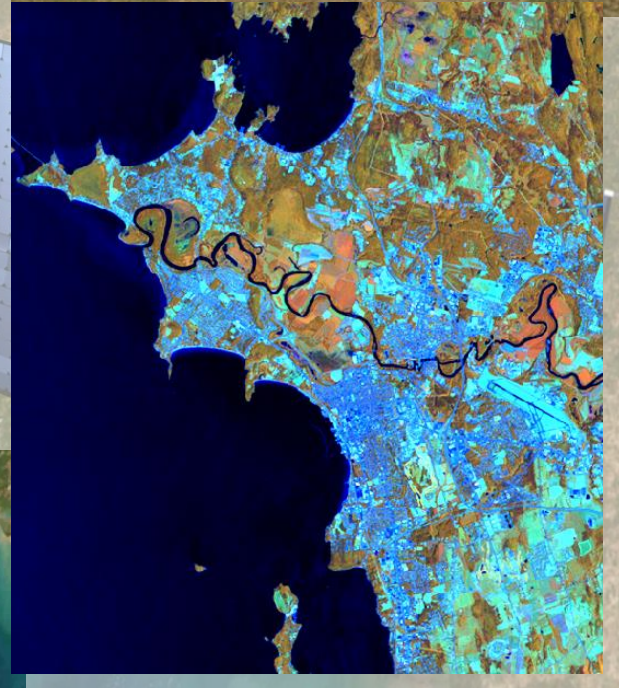
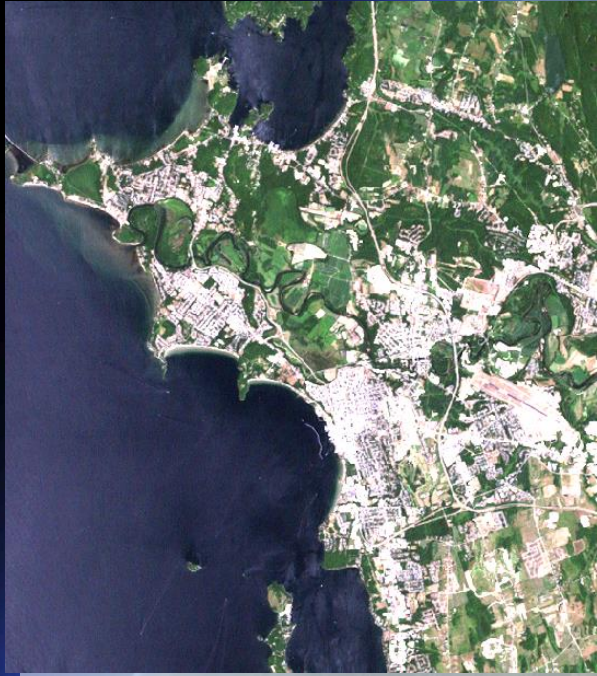


0 0.04 0.08  
Miles

 Sample EcObject



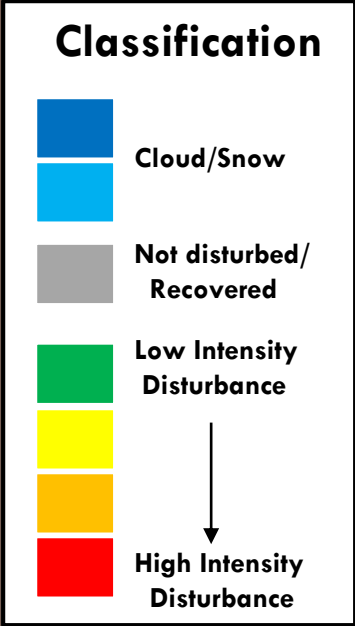
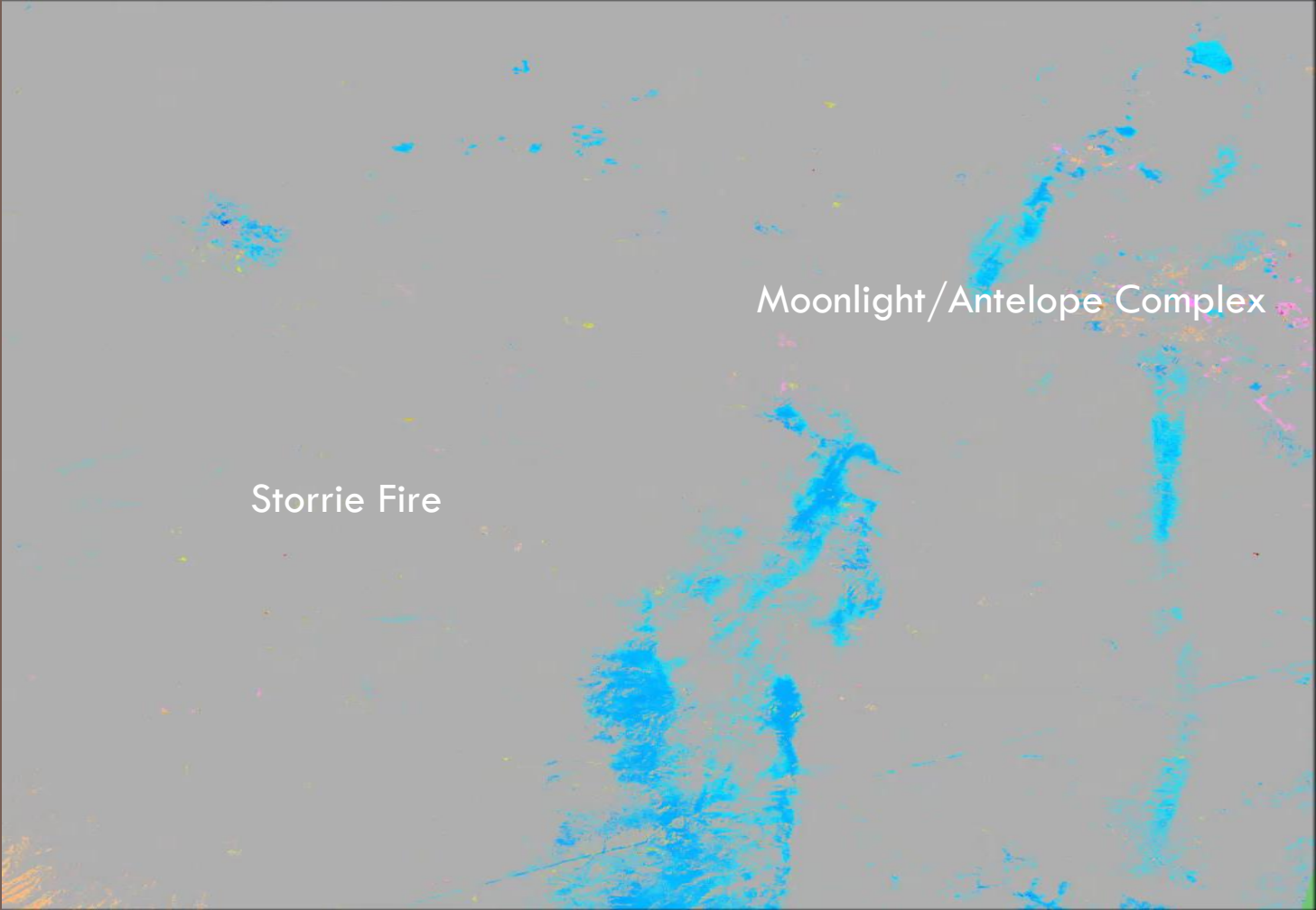
# Landsat





# Ecosystem Disturbance and Recovery Tracker (eDaRT)

## Plumas/Lassen National Forest 1998 - 2010



Credits:  
Alex Koltunov— USFS Remote Sensing Lab  
Carlos Ramirez – USFS Remote Sensing Lab




## Partial Stem Mapping

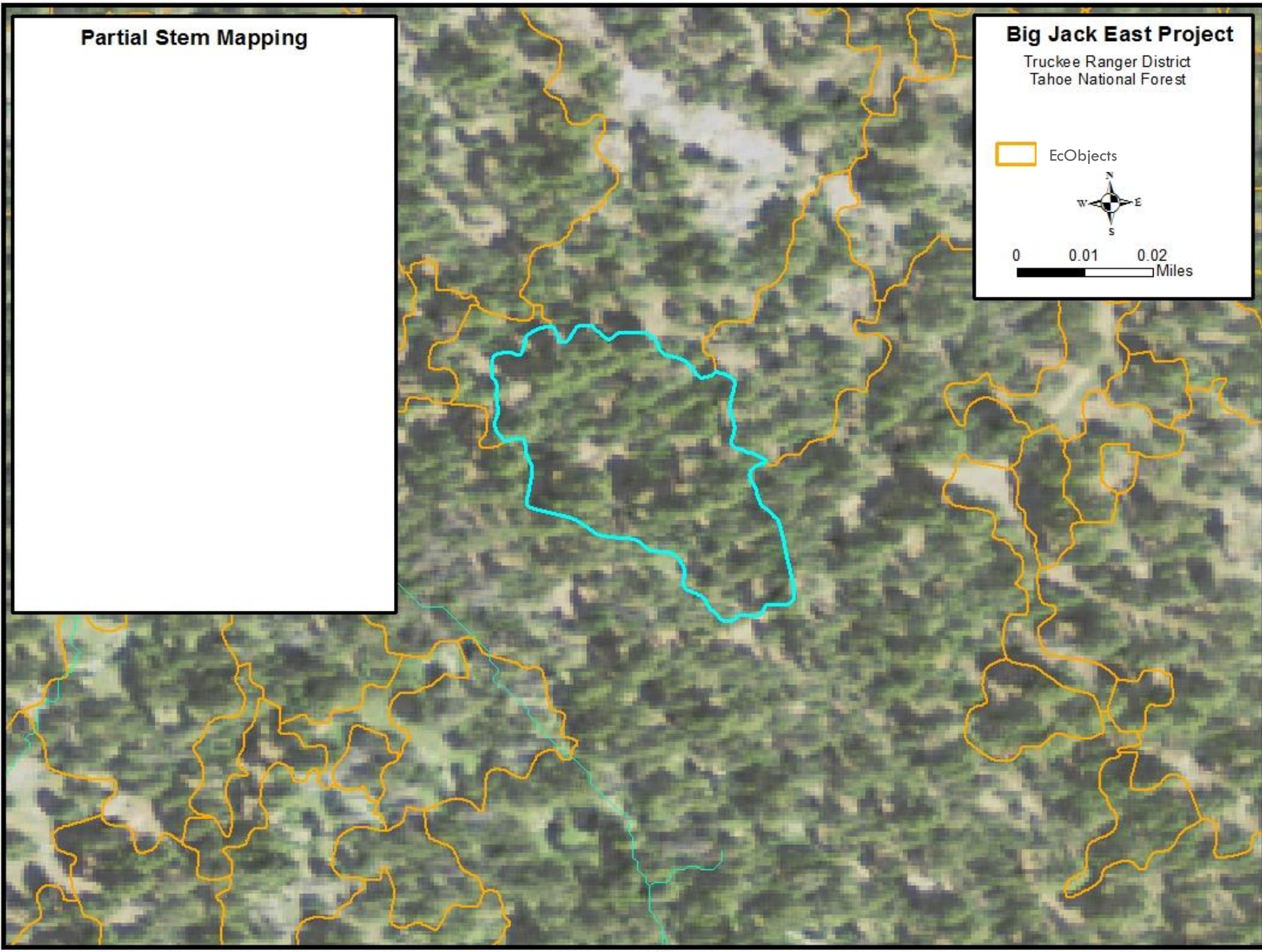
## Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

 EcObjects



0 0.01 0.02  
 Miles





## Partial Stem Mapping

● - Trees > 30" DBH

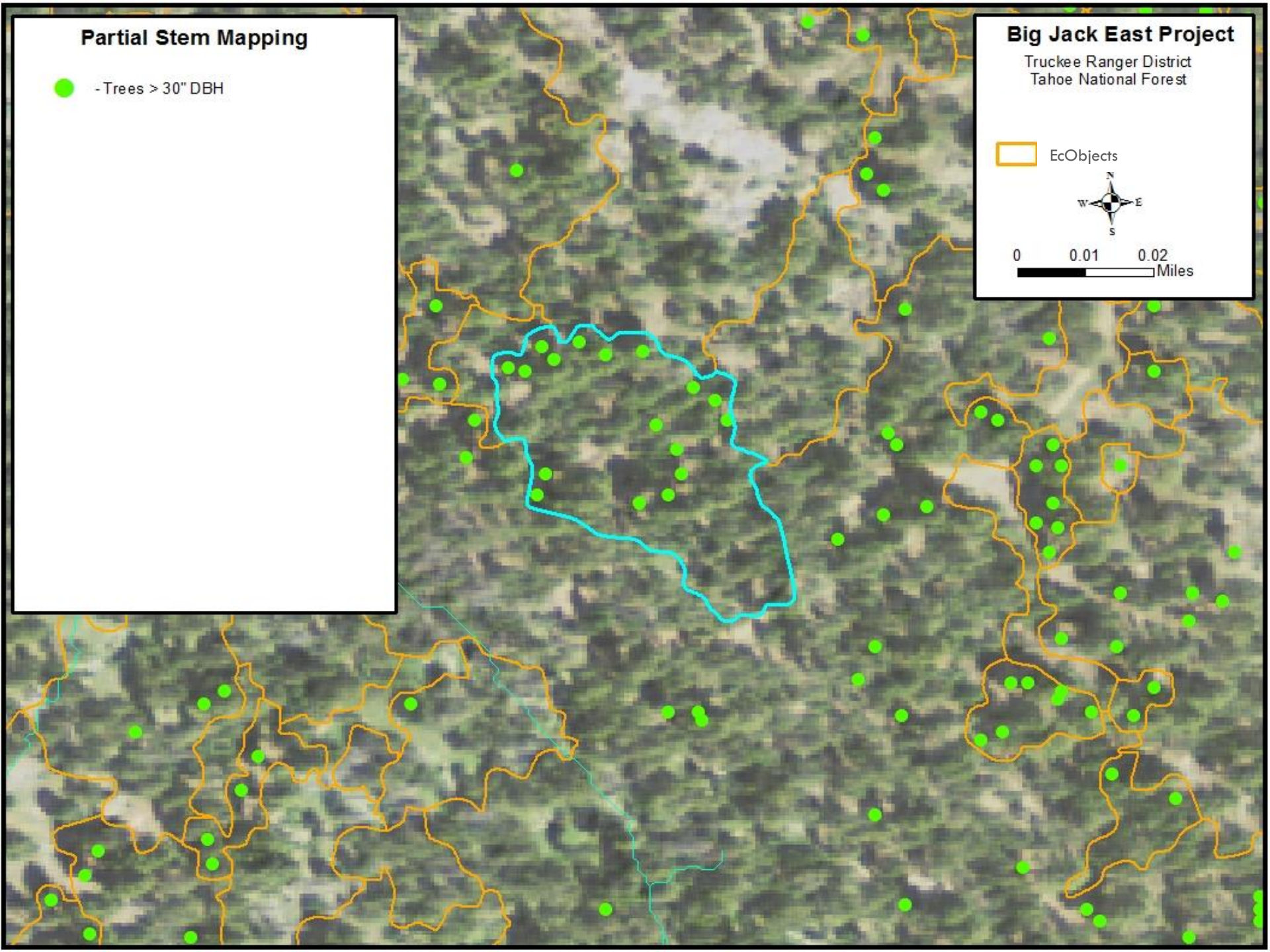
## Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

EcObjects





0 0.01 0.02 Miles





## Partial Stem Mapping

-  - Trees > 30" DBH
-  - Trees 20 - 30" DBH

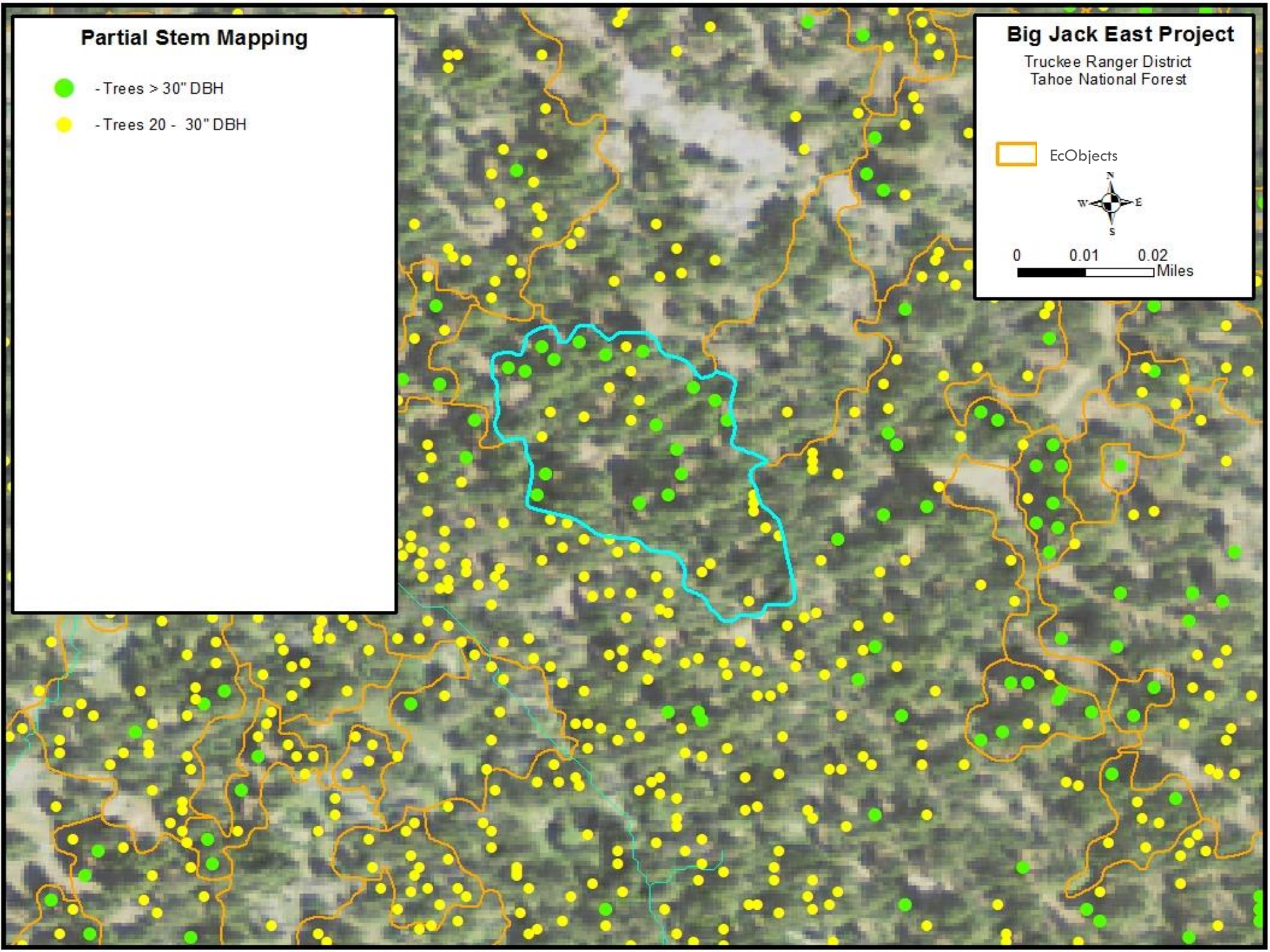
## Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

 EcObjects



0 0.01 0.02  
Miles





## Partial Stem Mapping

- Trees > 30" DBH
- Trees 20 - 30" DBH
- Trees 10 - 20" DBH

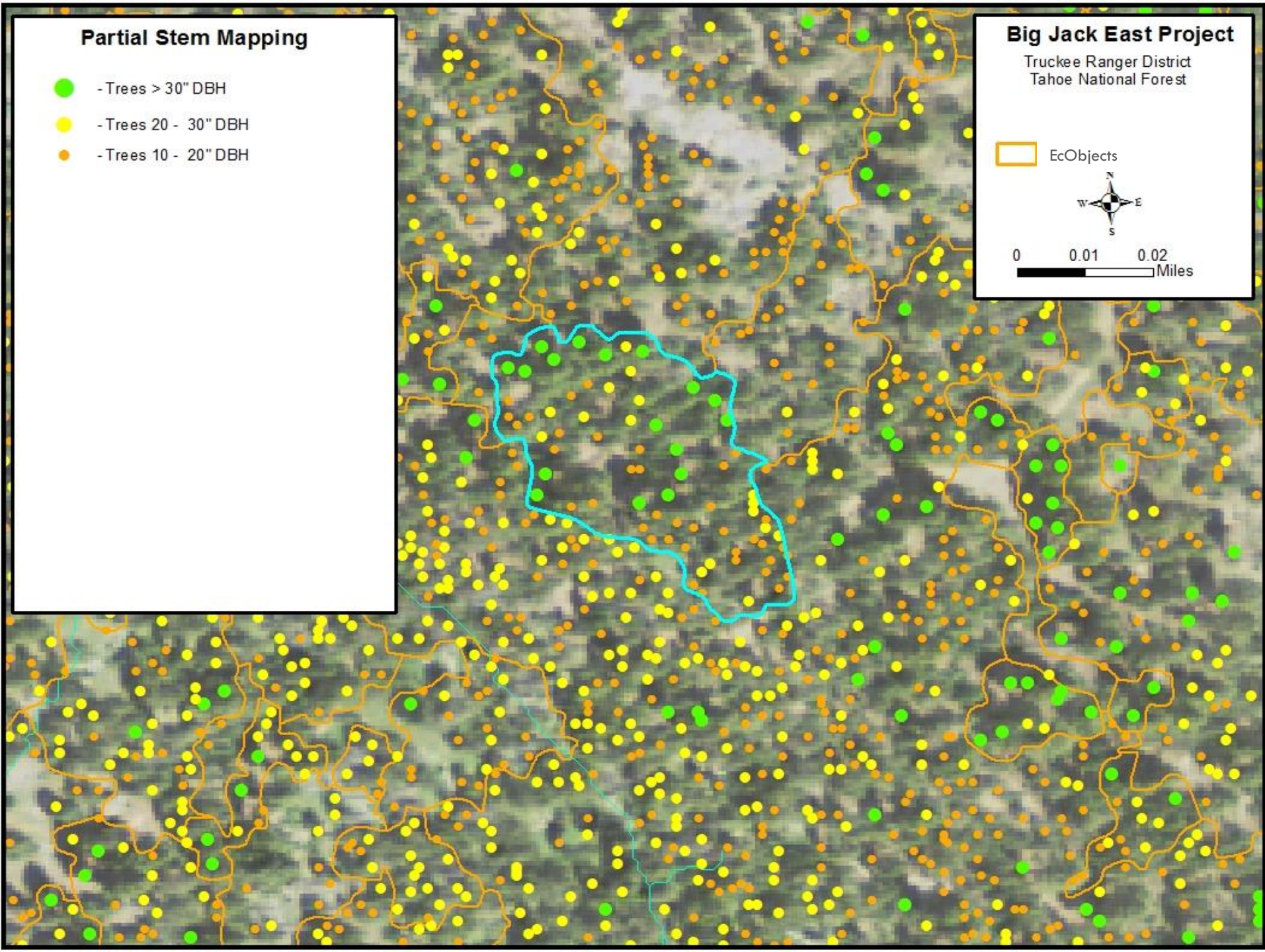
## Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

EcObjects



0 0.01 0.02 Miles





## Partial Stem Mapping

- Trees > 30" DBH
- Trees 20 - 30" DBH
- Trees 10 - 20" DBH
- Trees < 10" DBH

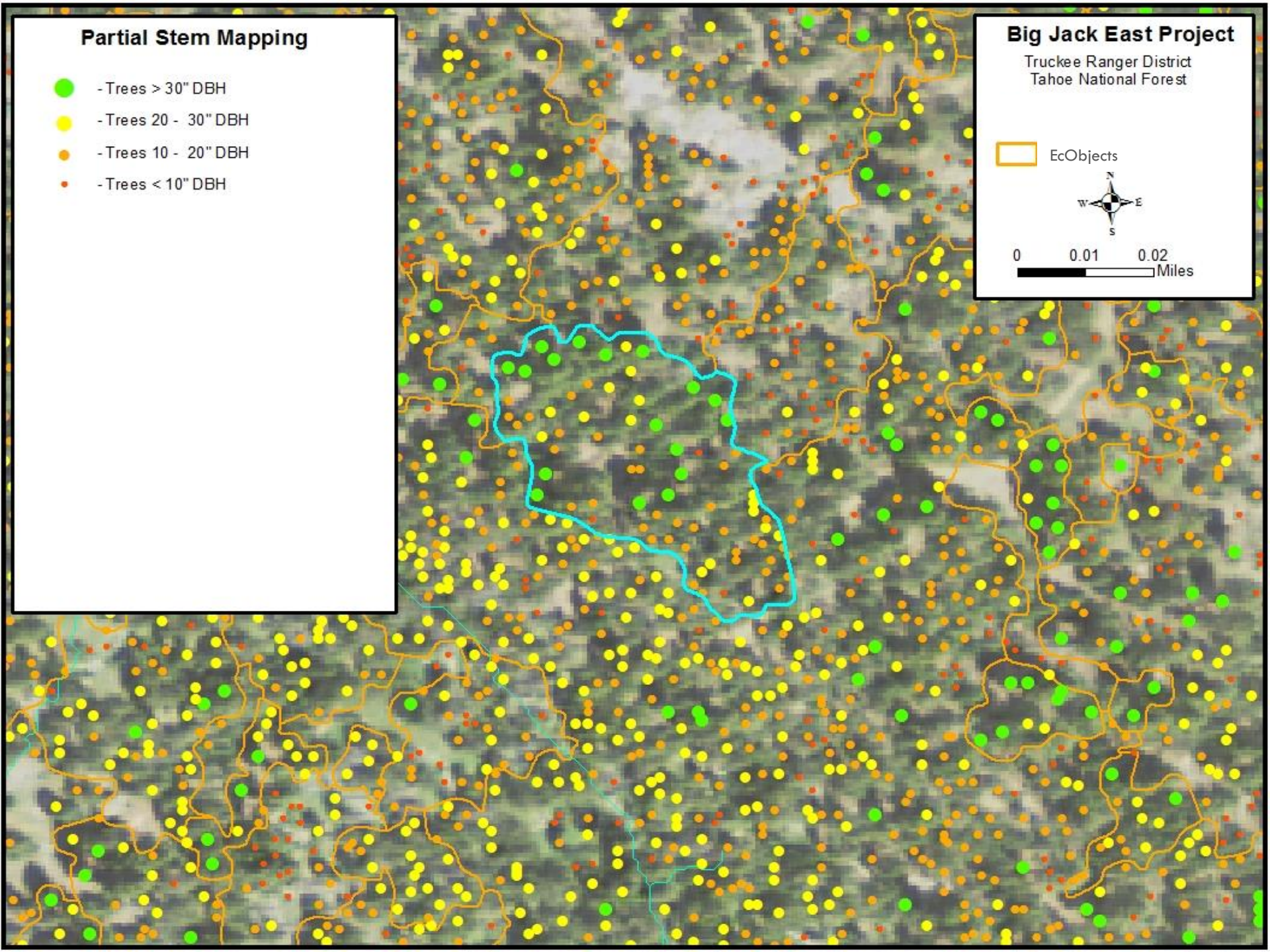
## Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

EcObjects



0 0.01 0.02  
Miles





## Partial Stem Mapping

- Trees > 30" DBH
- Trees 20 - 30" DBH
- Trees 10 - 20" DBH
- Trees < 10" DBH
- \* - Sick/snags > 50'

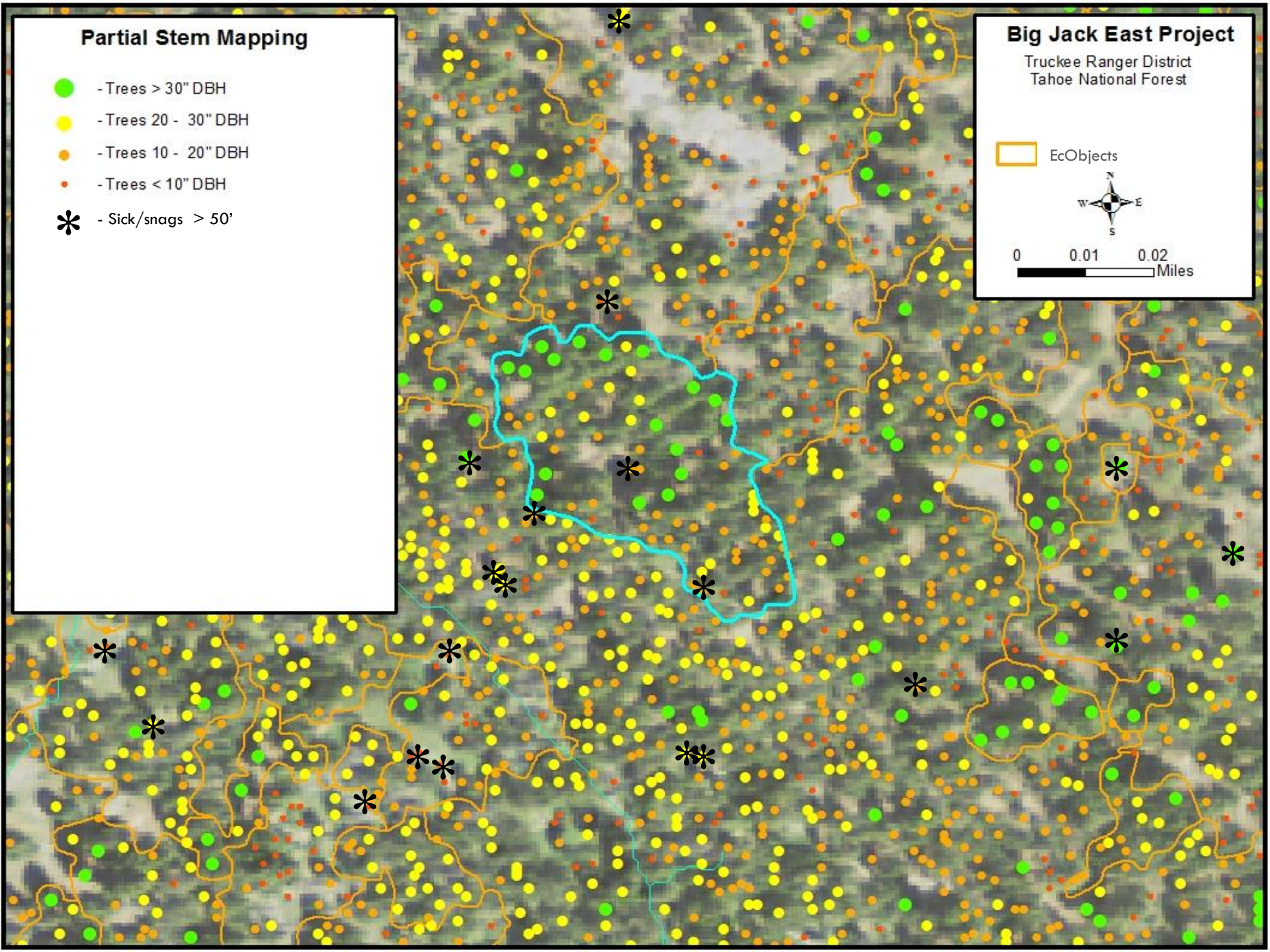
## Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

EcObjects



0 0.01 0.02  
Miles





## EcObject Metrics


- 31 trees > 20" DBH
- 2 "snags" > 50'
- 73 trees
- 0.74 acres
- 99 Trees per acre
- 2.7 large snags per acre
- 80.8 CCF of above ground live biomass
- 37,957 Kg of live carbon
- 29.9 CCF of saw log material
- 8% slope
- Southwest facing
- Quadratic Mean Diameter = 24.9"
- Canopy Cover = 62%
- White Fir Dominated
- WFR6D
- Spatial variables:
  - ICO = clump
  - Succession = mature
  - Strata = multi
- Fire Risk Index = Low
- Climate Exposure Index = Very High
- Elevation = 6,942 feet
- Precipitation = 34 inches/year
- eDaRT: Little/no change since acquisition

## Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

 EcObjects



0 0.01 0.02  
 Miles



# LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT

- Seamless transition between scales






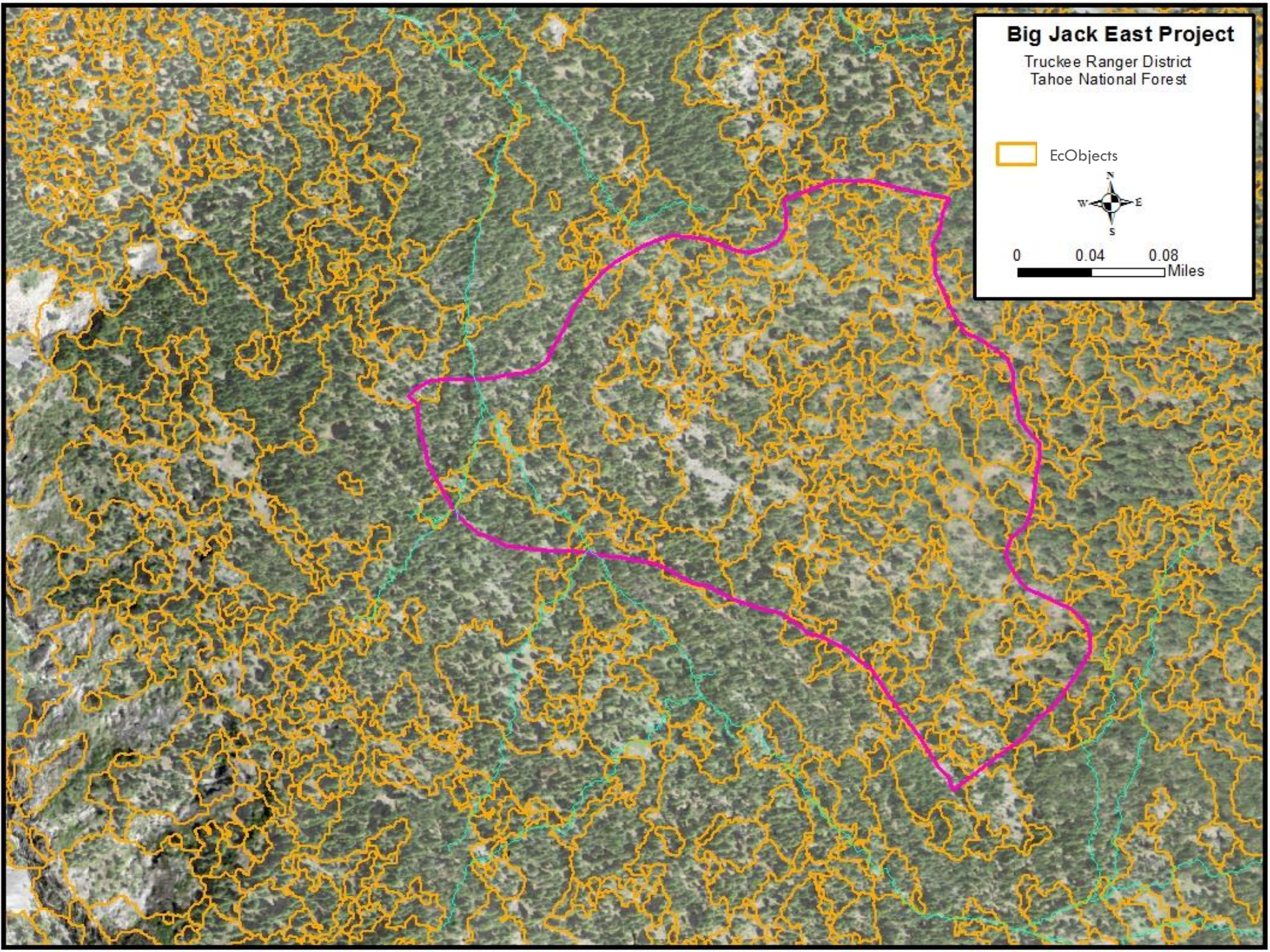
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

 EcObjects



0 0.04 0.08  
 Miles






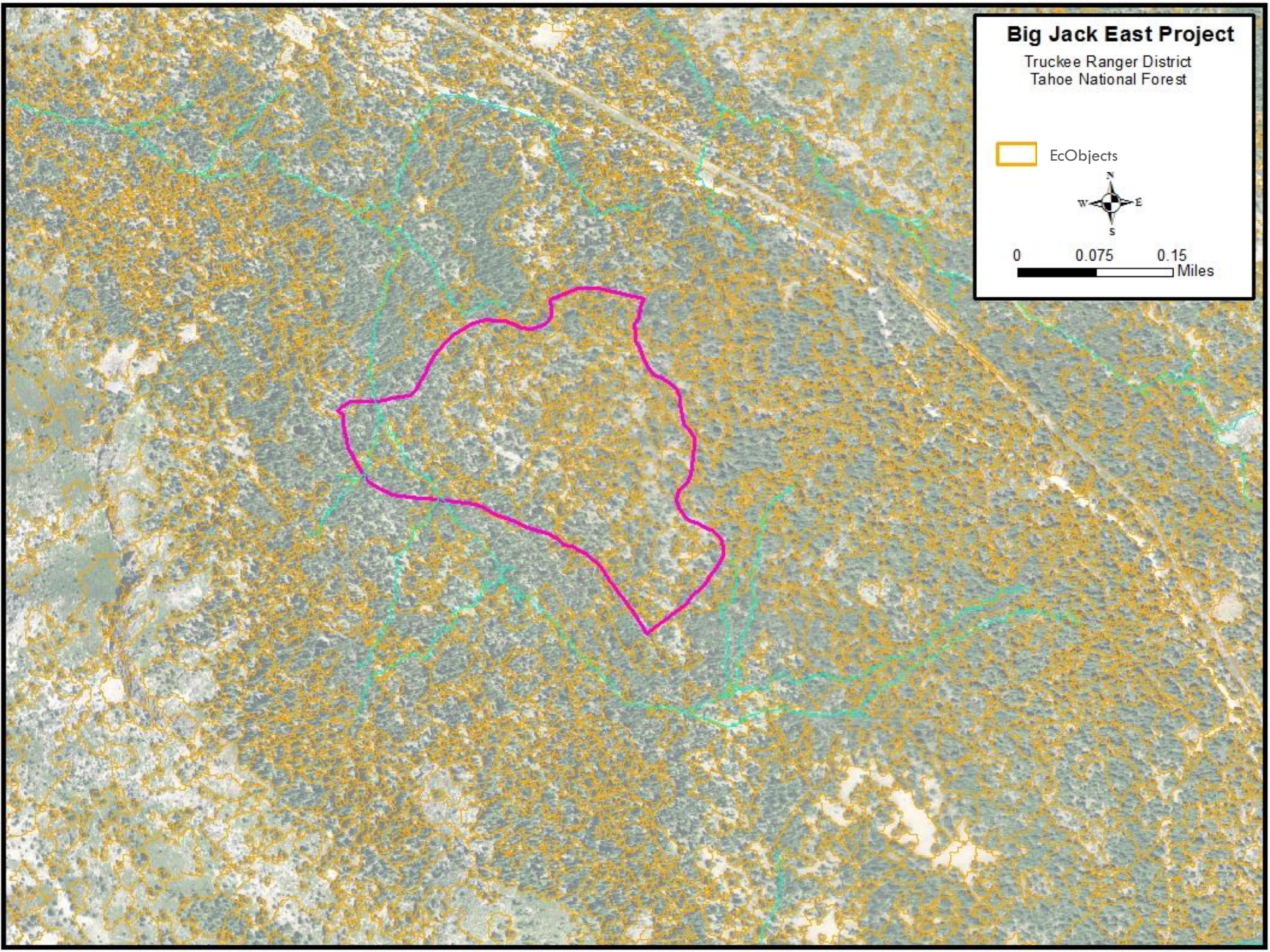
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

 EcObjects



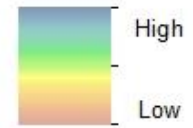
0 0.075 0.15  
 Miles





## Tahoe National Forest

Old Forest Sensitive Species  
Habitat Assessment



0 0.3 0.6 Miles

A horizontal scale bar with markings at 0, 0.3, and 0.6 miles.

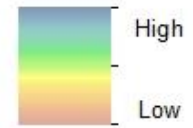
### Metrics

- Canopy cover
- Quadratic mean diameter



## Tahoe National Forest

Old Forest Sensitive Species  
Habitat Assessment



0 0.45 0.9 Miles

A horizontal scale bar with three segments, corresponding to the values 0, 0.45, and 0.9 miles.

### Metrics

- Canopy cover
- Quadratic mean diameter



# Tahoe National Forest

Old Forest Sensitive Species  
Habitat Assessment



0 0.45 0.9 Miles

A horizontal black scale bar with tick marks at 0, 0.45, and 0.9 miles.

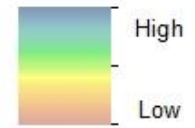
## Metrics

- Canopy cover
- Quadratic mean diameter



# Tahoe National Forest

Old Forest Sensitive Species  
Habitat Assessment



0 0.85 1.7  
Miles

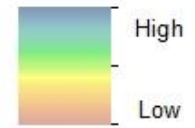
## Metrics

- Canopy cover
- Quadratic mean diameter



## Tahoe National Forest

Old Forest Sensitive Species  
Habitat Assessment



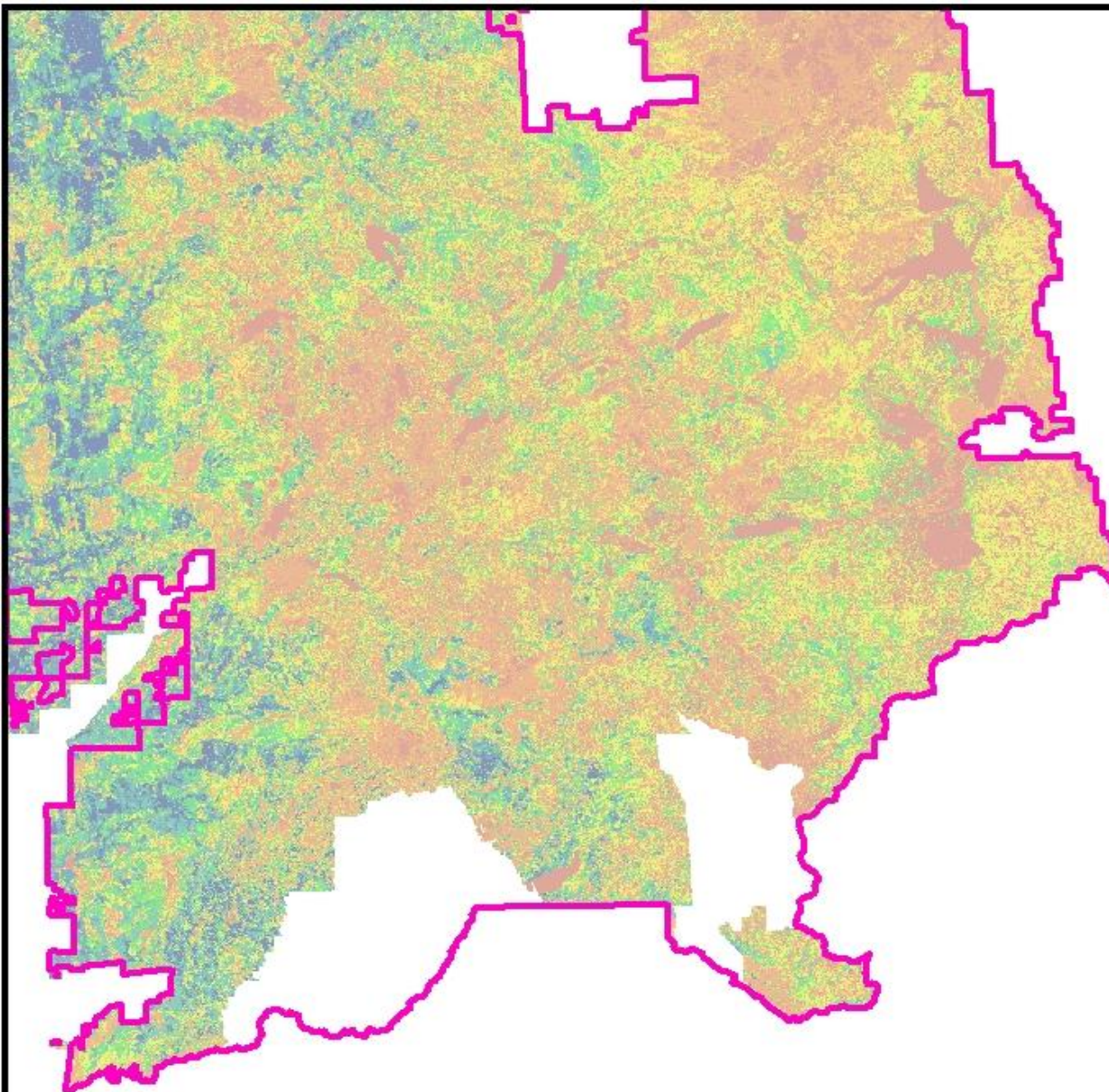
0 2 4 Miles

A horizontal scale bar with markings at 0, 2, and 4 miles.

### Metrics

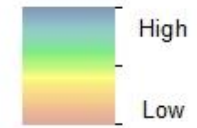
- Canopy cover
- Quadratic mean diameter





## Tahoe National Forest

Old Forest Sensitive Species  
Habitat Assessment



0 4 8 Miles

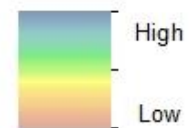
## Metrics

- Canopy cover
- Quadratic mean diameter



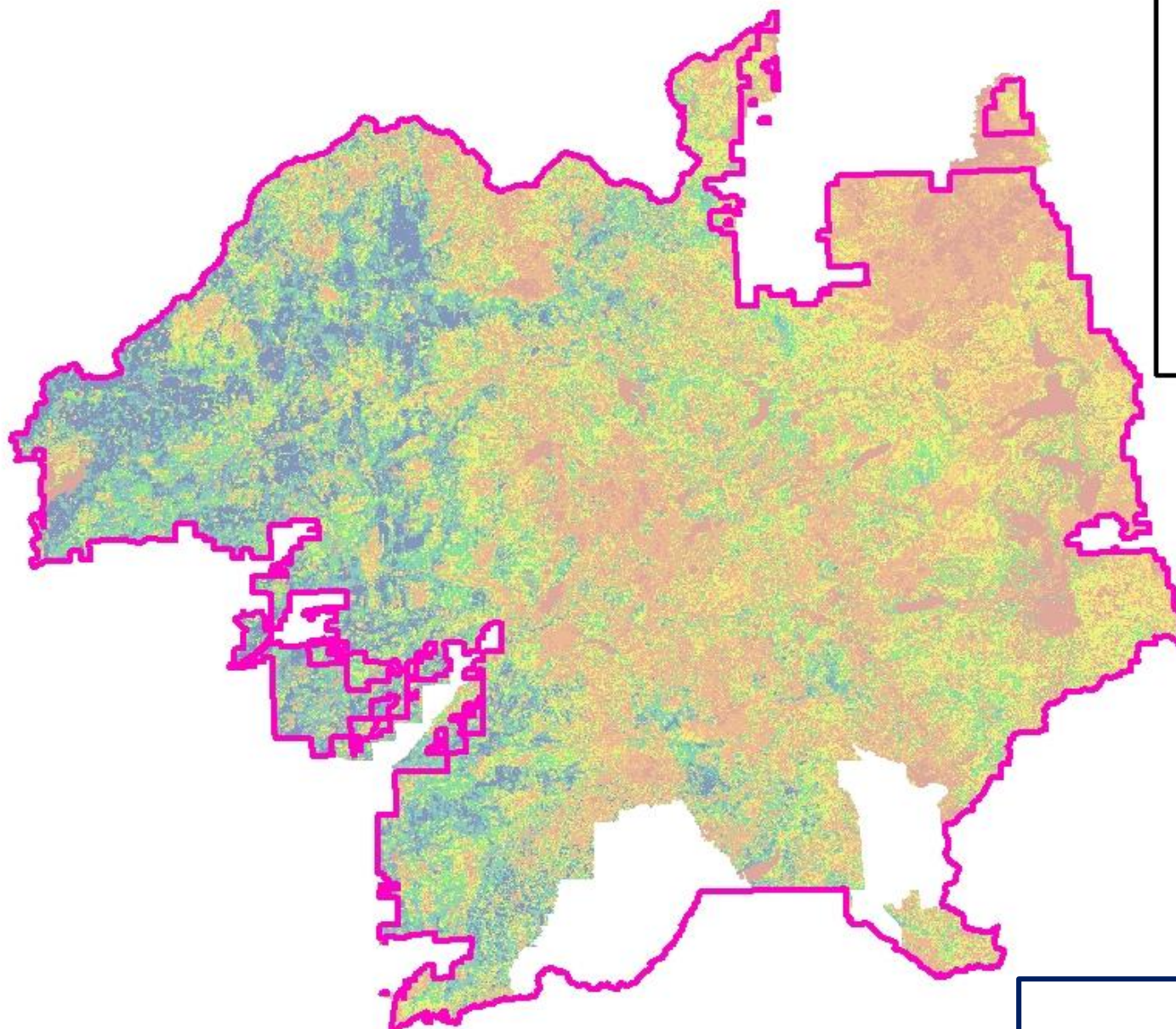
## Tahoe National Forest

Old Forest Sensitive Species  
Habitat Assessment



0 5 10  
Miles

A horizontal scale bar with three segments. The first segment is labeled "0", the second "5", and the third "10". The word "Miles" is at the right end of the bar.



### Metrics

- Canopy cover
- Quadratic mean diameter



# LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT

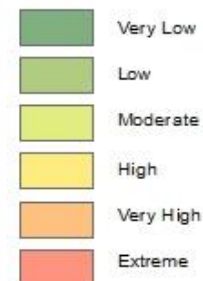
- Seamless transition between scales
- Seamless transition between metrics



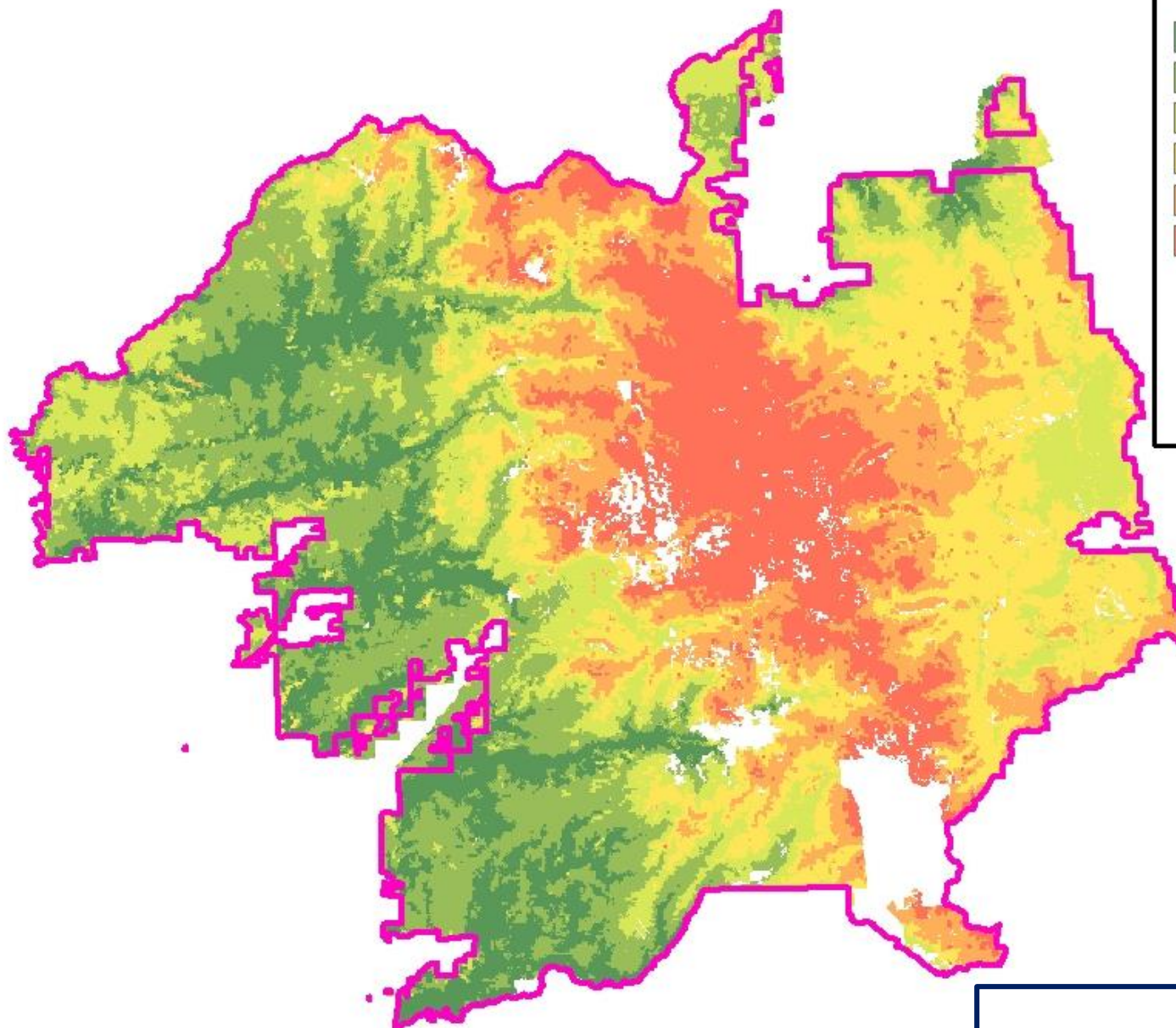


## Tahoe National Forest

Climate Exposure Index



0 5 10 Miles



### Metrics

- % climatic water deficit change
- Present 30 yr avg vs 2070 – 2099 avg

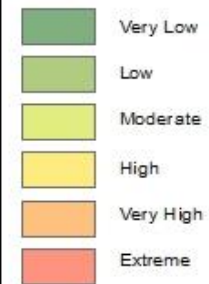
Credits:

Jim Thorne – U.C. Davis

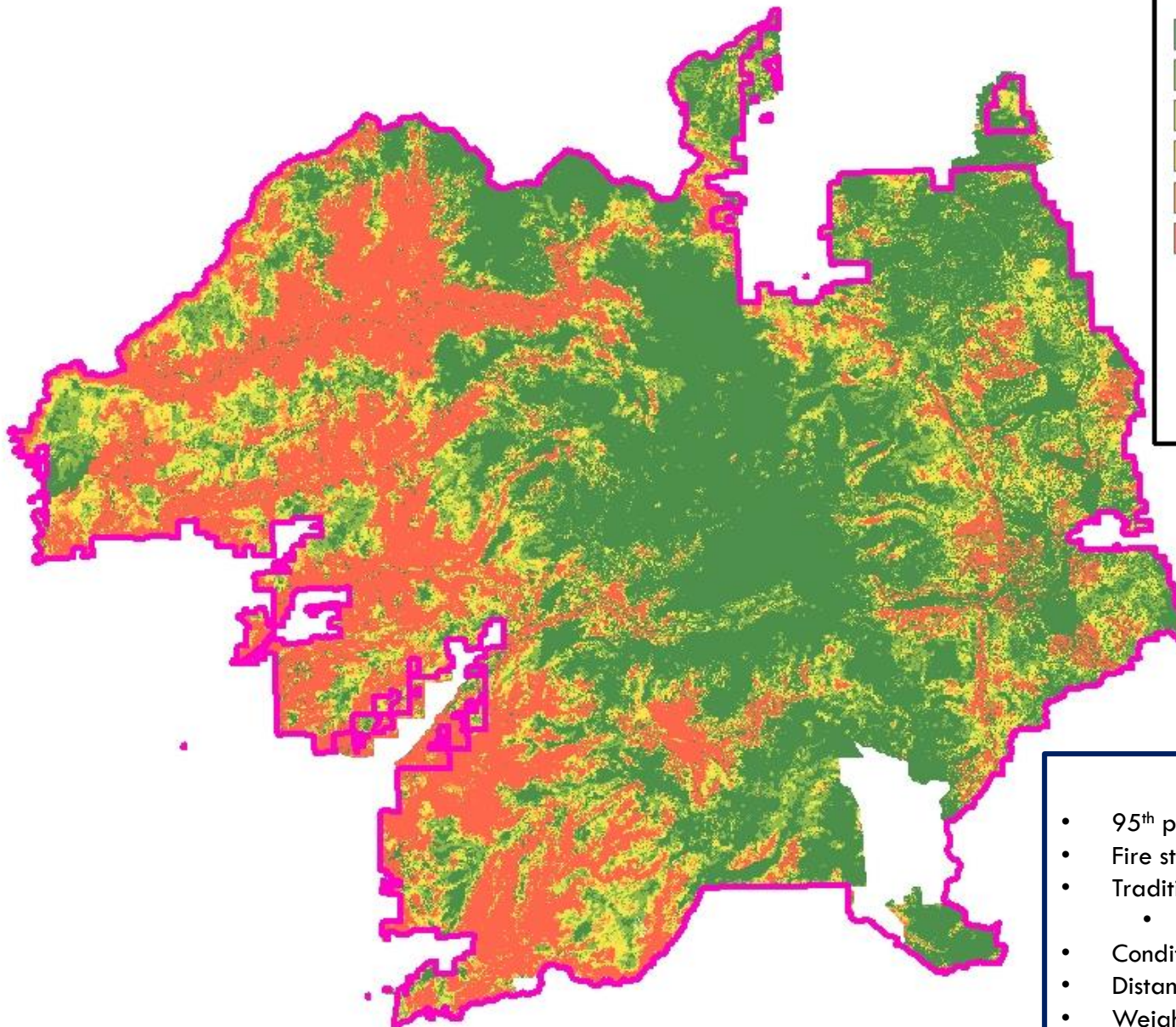


## Tahoe National Forest

LiDAR Aided Fire Risk Index



0 5 10 Miles



### Metrics

- 95<sup>th</sup> percentile weather
- Fire start history
- Traditional fuel metrics
  - surface fuels, canopy fuels
- Condition class
- Distance to anthropogenic values
- Weighted canopy cover slices
  - 2 – 8m cover x 3
  - 8 – 16m cover x 2

Credits:

West Wide Fire Risk Assessment: Final Report – Sanborn Map Company, Inc



# LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT

- Seamless transition between scales
- Seamless transition between metrics
- Simplified queries enables analysis without an analyst



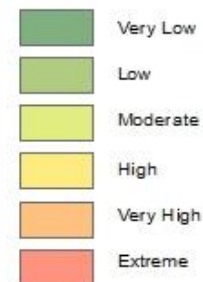


Upper Yuba  
Analysis Area



## Tahoe National Forest

LiDAR Aided Fire Risk Index



0 5 10 Miles

### Metrics

- 95<sup>th</sup> percentile weather
- Fire start history
- Traditional fuel metrics
  - surface fuels, canopy fuels
- Condition class
- Distance to anthropogenic values
- Weighted canopy cover slices
  - 2 – 8m cover x 3
  - 8 – 16m cover x 2

Credits:

West Wide Fire Risk Assessment: Final Report – Sanborn Map Company, Inc



## Upper Yuba Landscape Analysis



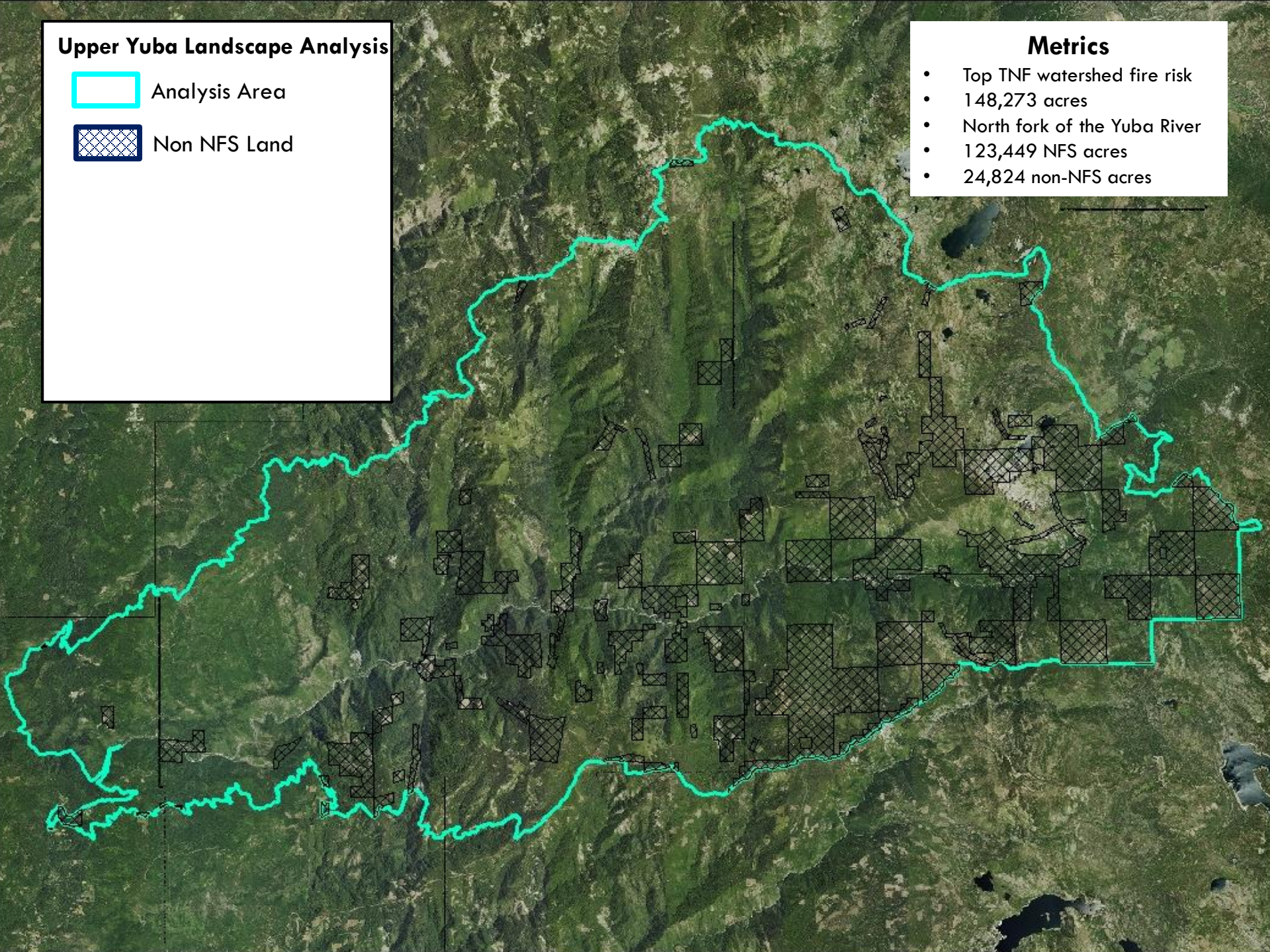
Analysis Area



Non NFS Land

## Metrics

- Top TNF watershed fire risk
- 148,273 acres
- North fork of the Yuba River
- 123,449 NFS acres
- 24,824 non-NFS acres





## Upper Yuba Landscape Analysis



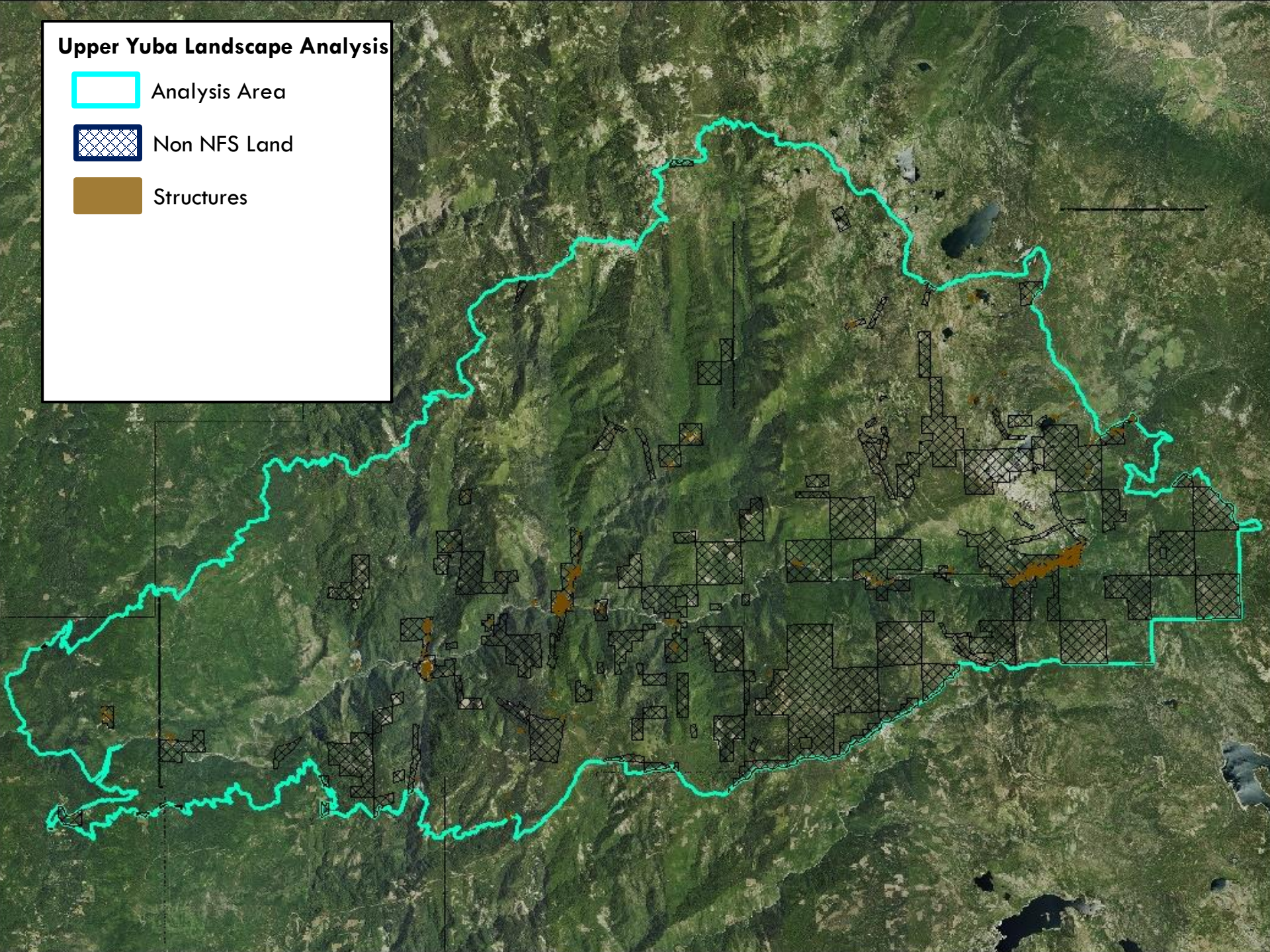
Analysis Area



Non NFS Land







Structures



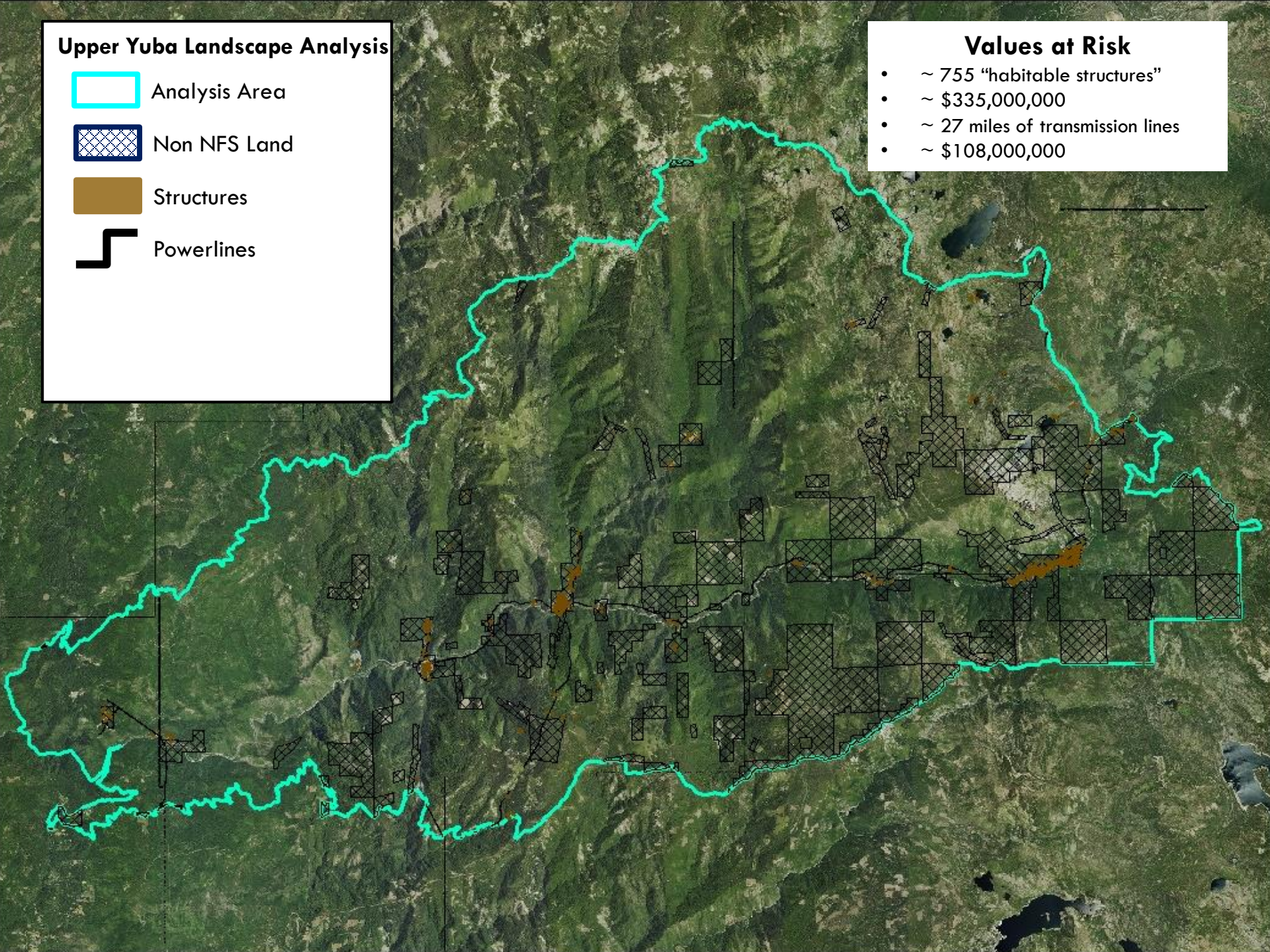


## Upper Yuba Landscape Analysis

-  Analysis Area
-  Non NFS Land
-  Structures
-  Powerlines


## Values at Risk

- ~ 755 “habitable structures”
- ~ \$335,000,000
- ~ 27 miles of transmission lines
- ~ \$108,000,000





## Upper Yuba Landscape Analysis

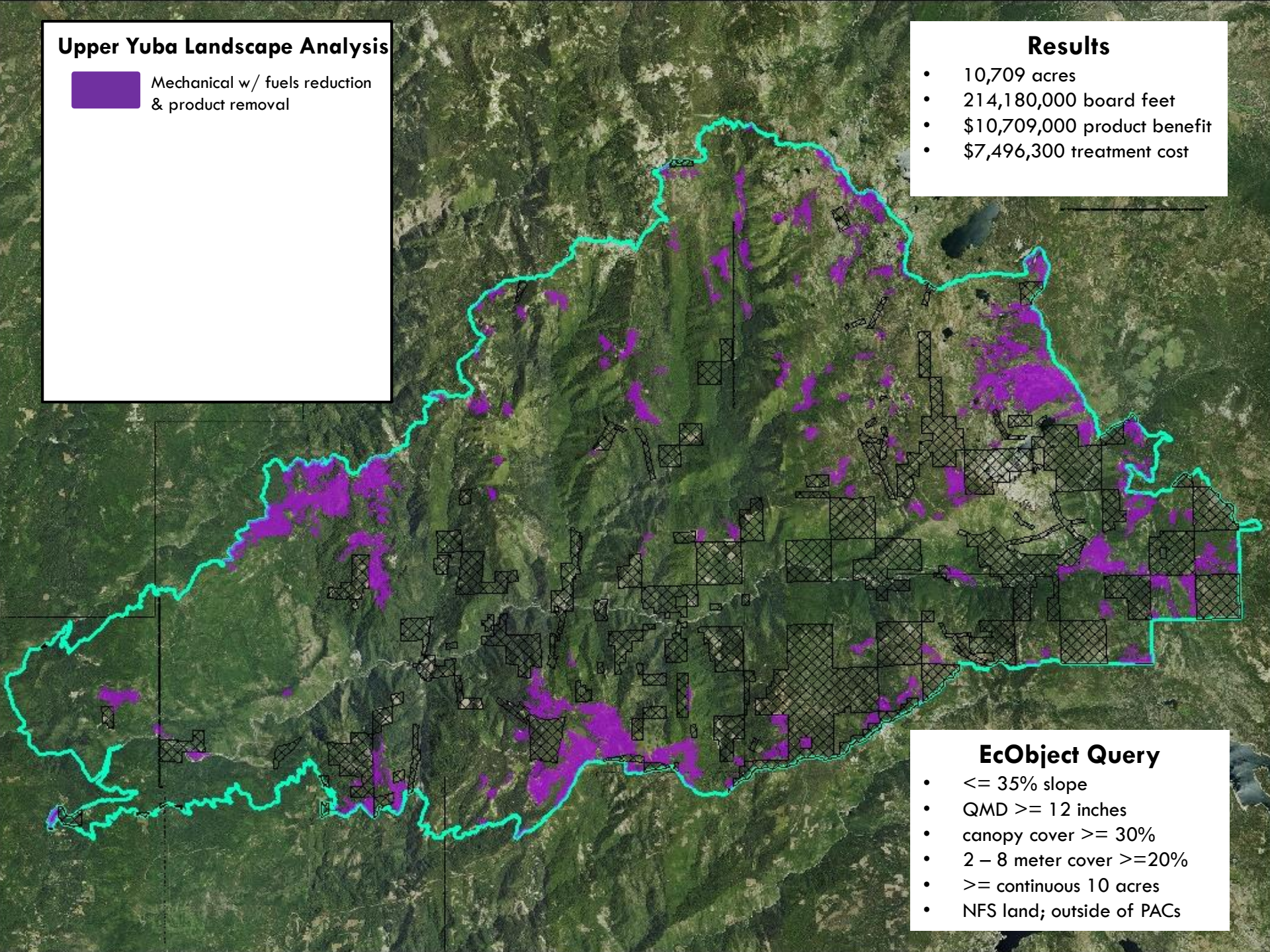
 Mechanical w/ fuels reduction  
& product removal

## Results

- 10,709 acres
- 214,180,000 board feet
- \$10,709,000 product benefit
- \$7,496,300 treatment cost



## EcObject Query

- $\leq 35\%$  slope
- QMD  $\geq 12$  inches
- canopy cover  $\geq 30\%$
- 2 – 8 meter cover  $\geq 20\%$
- $\geq$  continuous 10 acres
- NFS land; outside of PACs



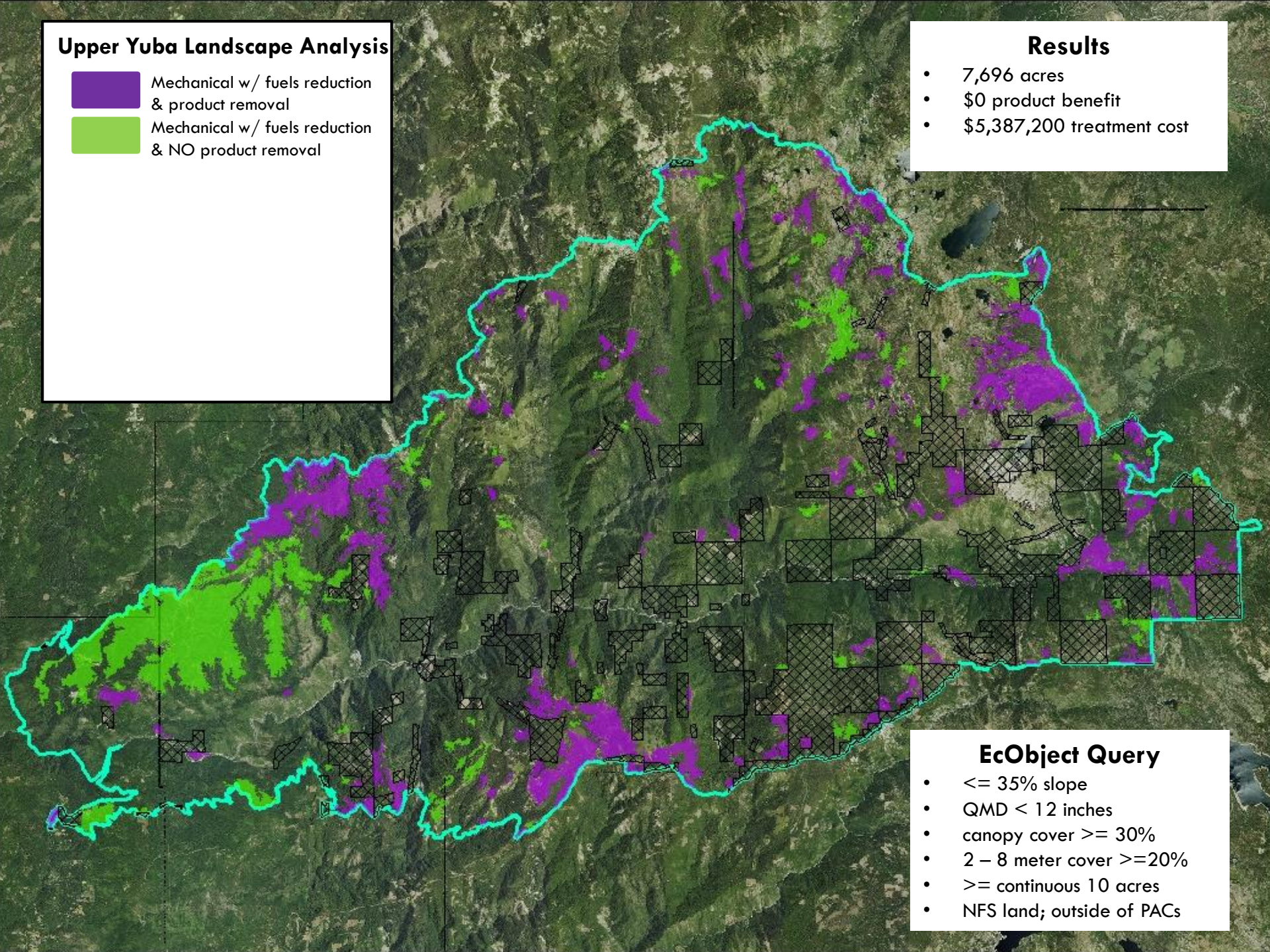


## Upper Yuba Landscape Analysis

-  Mechanical w/ fuels reduction & product removal
-  Mechanical w/ fuels reduction & NO product removal

## Results

- 7,696 acres
- \$0 product benefit
- \$5,387,200 treatment cost






## EcObject Query

- $\leq 35\%$  slope
- QMD  $< 12$  inches
- canopy cover  $\geq 30\%$
- 2 – 8 meter cover  $\geq 20\%$
- $\geq$  continuous 10 acres
- NFS land; outside of PACs



## Upper Yuba Landscape Analysis

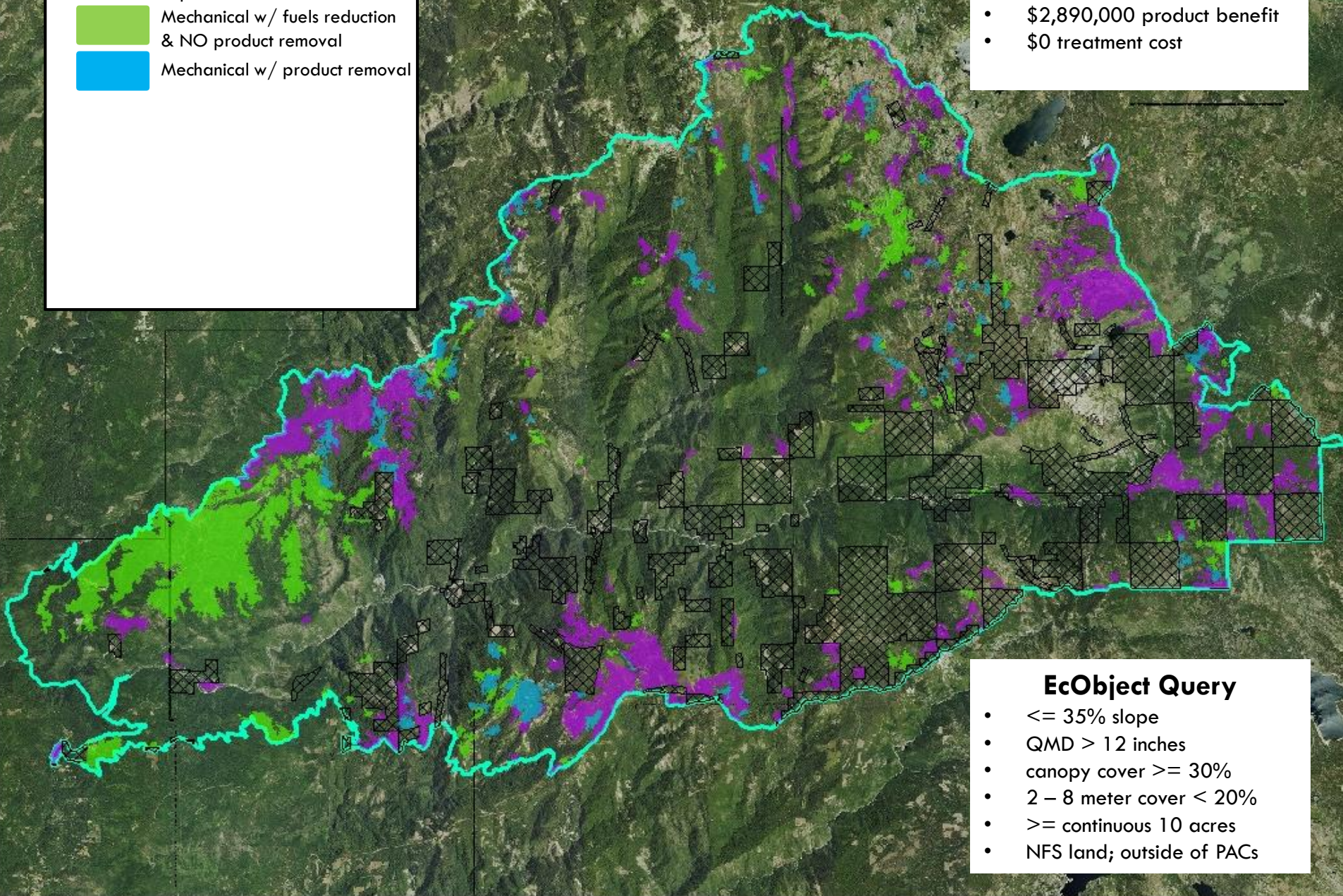
-  Mechanical w/ fuels reduction & product removal
-  Mechanical w/ fuels reduction & NO product removal
-  Mechanical w/ product removal

## Results

- 2,312 acres
- 57,800,000 board feet
- \$2,890,000 product benefit
- \$0 treatment cost





## EcObject Query

- $\leq 35\%$  slope
- QMD  $> 12$  inches
- canopy cover  $\geq 30\%$
- 2 – 8 meter cover  $< 20\%$
- $\geq$  continuous 10 acres
- NFS land; outside of PACs



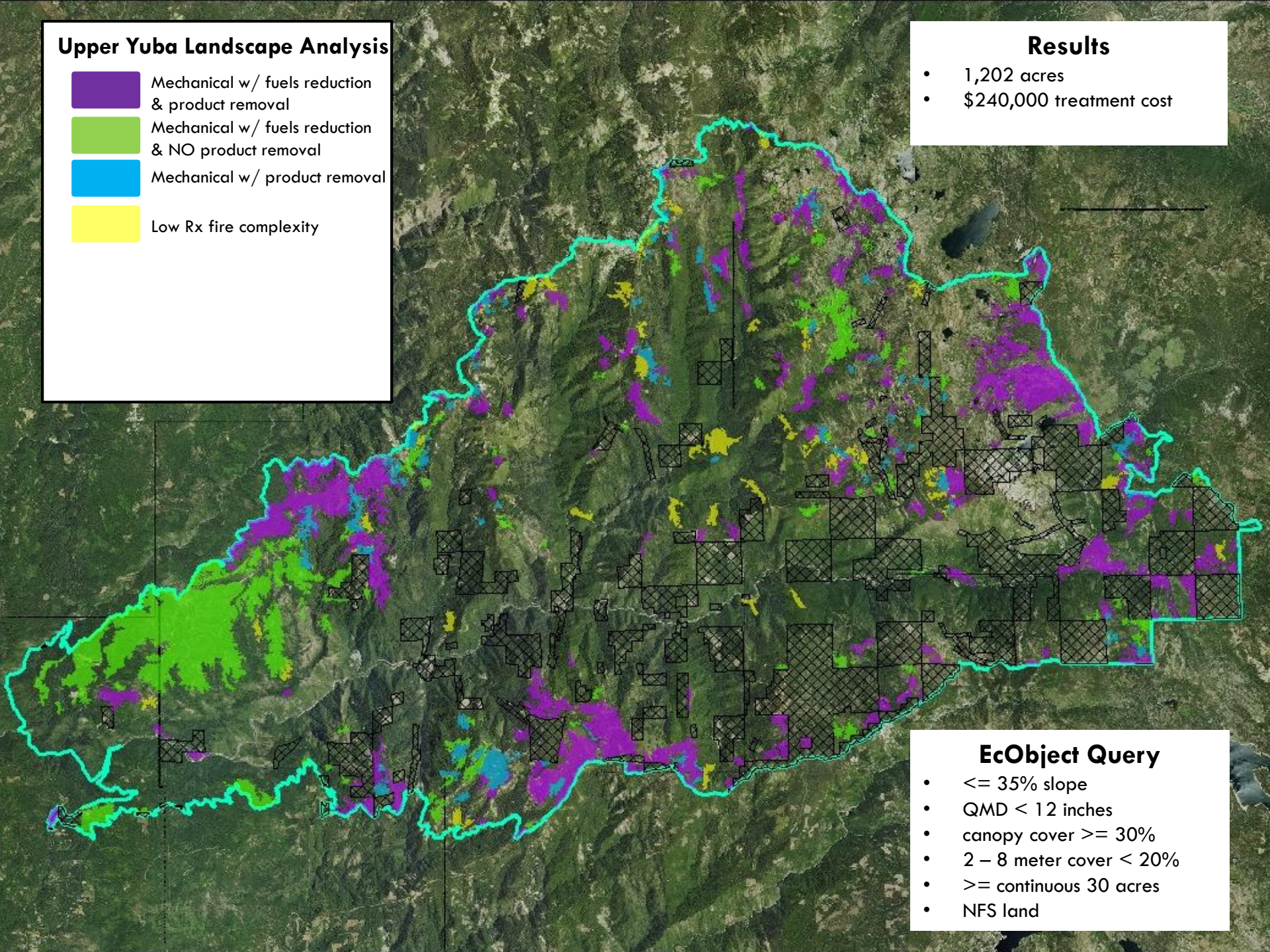


## Upper Yuba Landscape Analysis

-  Mechanical w/ fuels reduction & product removal
-  Mechanical w/ fuels reduction & NO product removal
-  Mechanical w/ product removal
-  Low Rx fire complexity

## Results

- 1,202 acres
- \$240,000 treatment cost




## EcObject Query

- $\leq 35\%$  slope
- QMD  $< 12$  inches
- canopy cover  $\geq 30\%$
- 2 – 8 meter cover  $< 20\%$
- $\geq$  continuous 30 acres
- NFS land

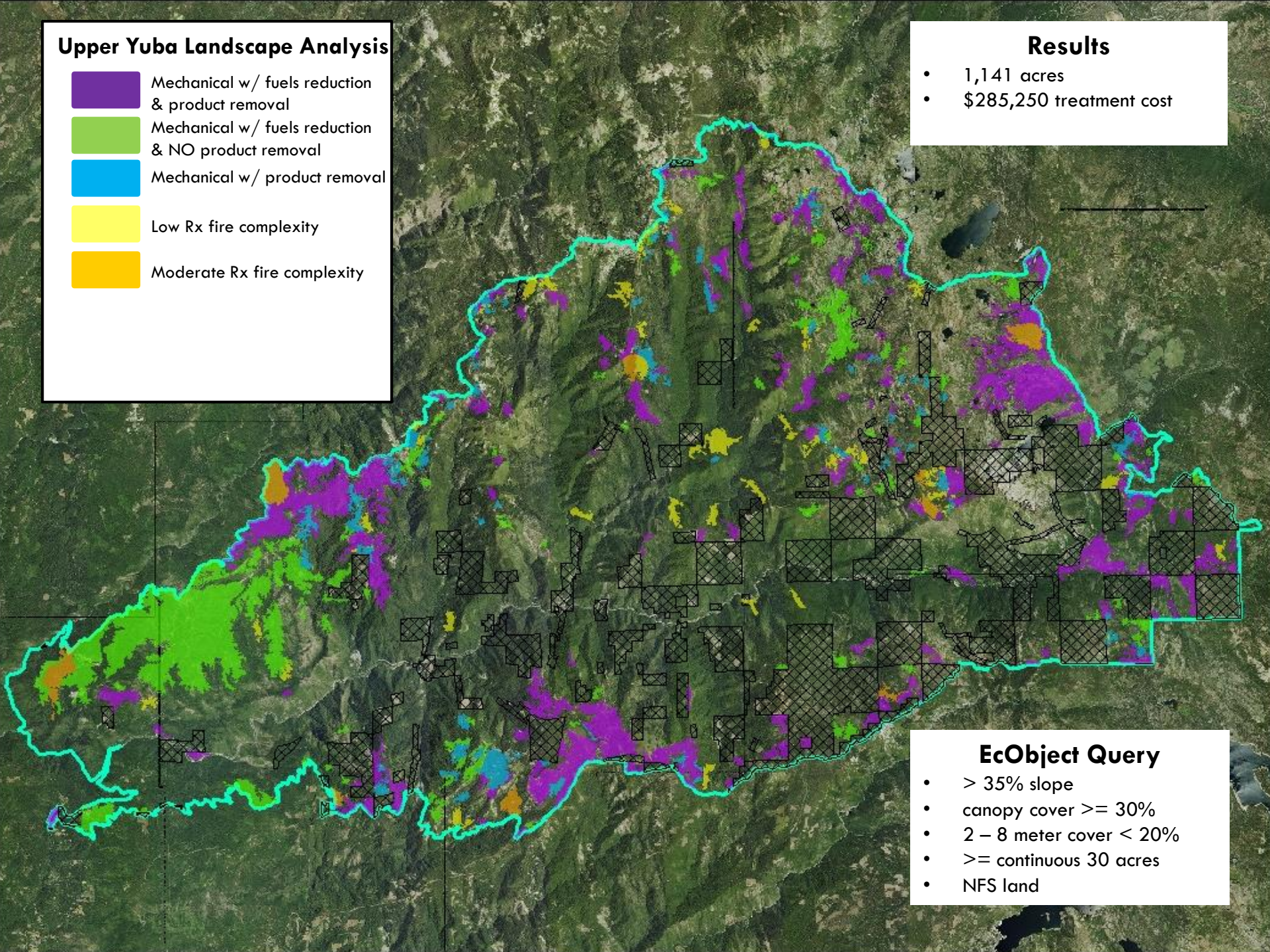


## Upper Yuba Landscape Analysis

-  Mechanical w/ fuels reduction & product removal
-  Mechanical w/ fuels reduction & NO product removal
-  Mechanical w/ product removal
-  Low Rx fire complexity
-  Moderate Rx fire complexity

## Results

- 1,141 acres
- \$285,250 treatment cost



## EcObject Query

- > 35% slope
- canopy cover  $\geq$  30%
- 2 – 8 meter cover < 20%
- $\geq$  continuous 30 acres
- NFS land

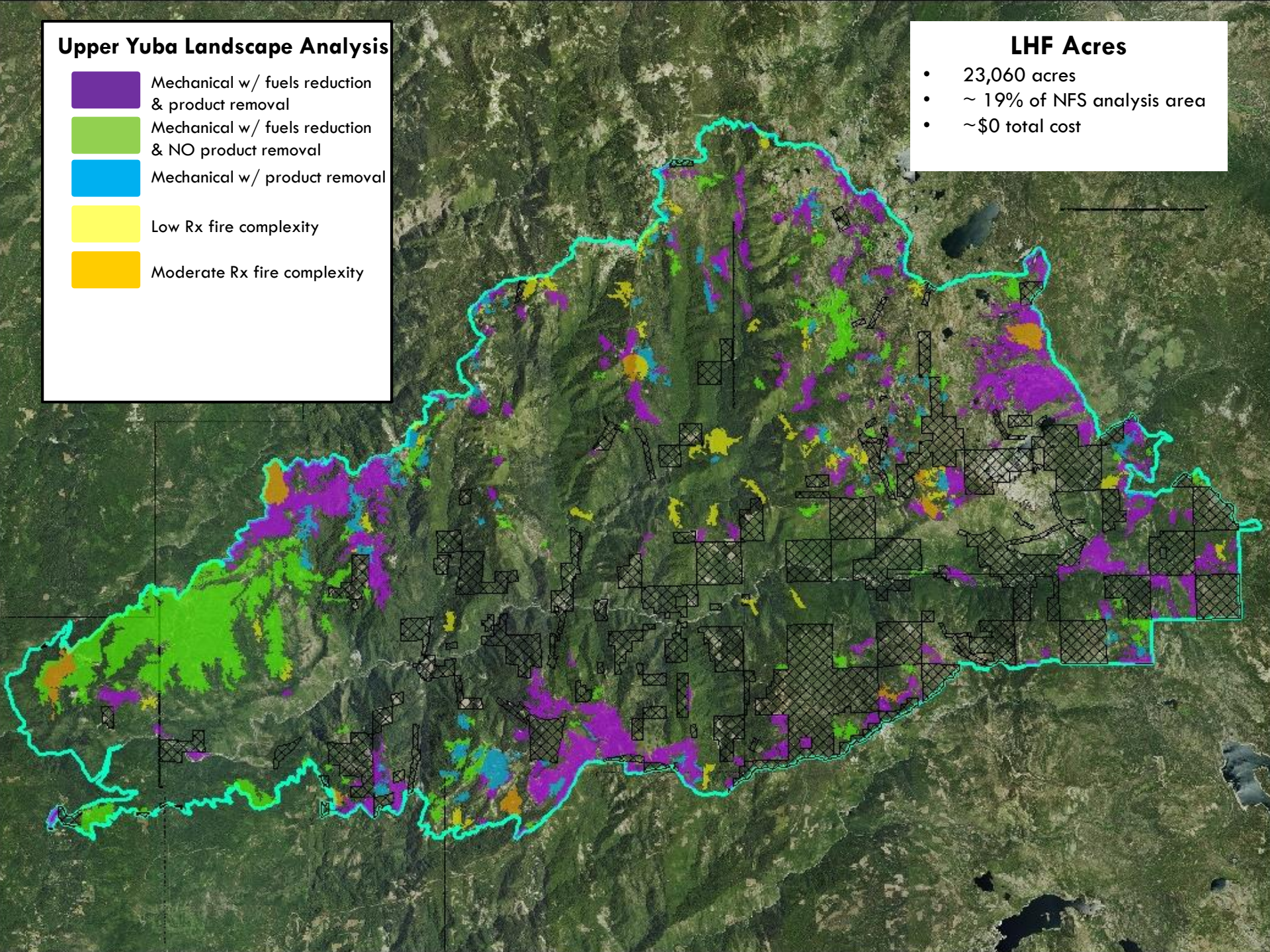


## Upper Yuba Landscape Analysis



## LHF Acres

- 23,060 acres
- ~ 19% of NFS analysis area
- ~\$0 total cost





## Upper Yuba Landscape Analysis

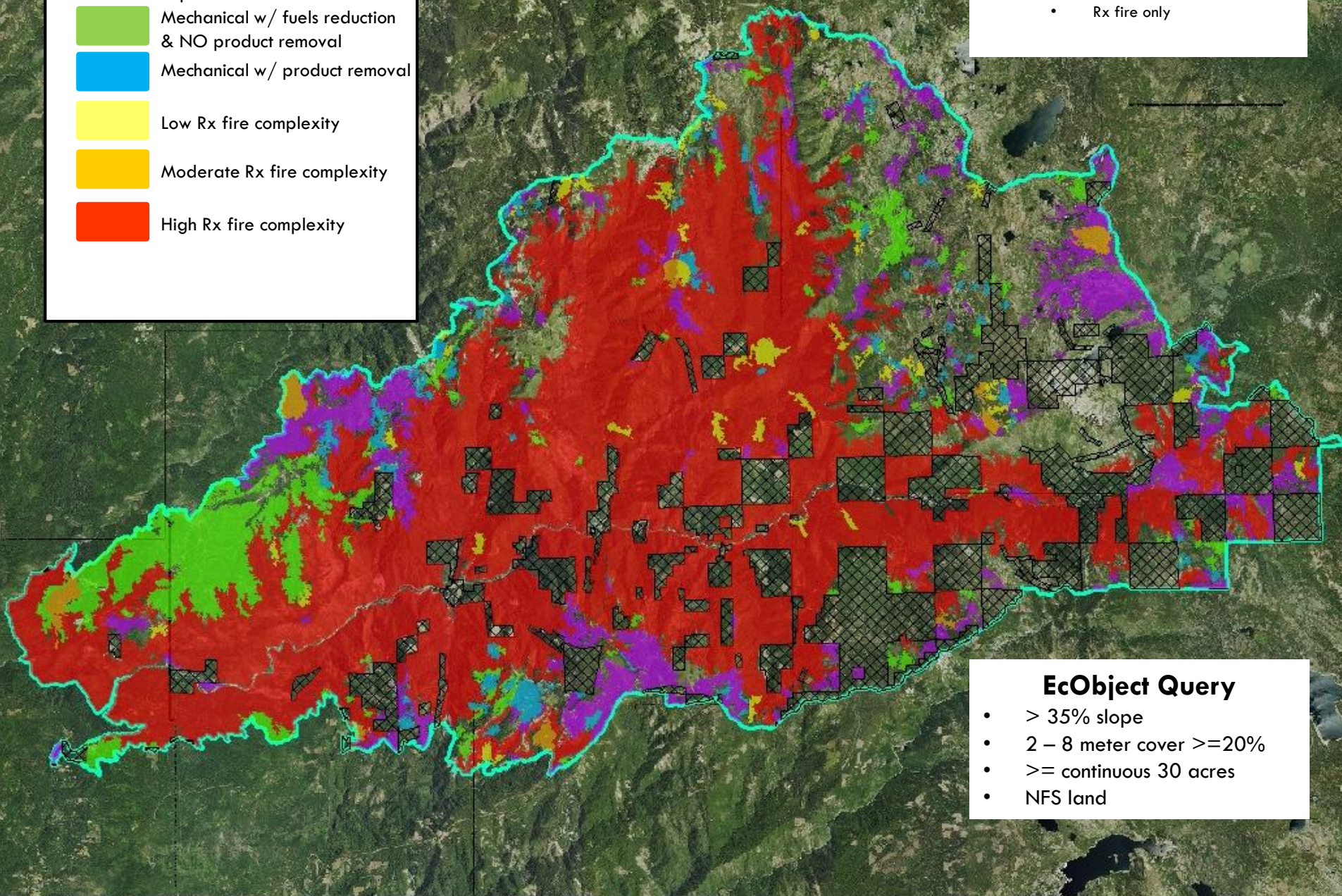
- Mechanical w/ fuels reduction & product removal
- Mechanical w/ fuels reduction & NO product removal
- Mechanical w/ product removal
- Low Rx fire complexity
- Moderate Rx fire complexity
- High Rx fire complexity

## Results

- 66,052 acres
- \$23,118,200 treatment cost
  - Rx fire only

## EcObject Query

- > 35% slope
- 2 – 8 meter cover  $\geq 20\%$
- $\geq$  continuous 30 acres
- NFS land





## Upper Yuba Landscape Analysis



Analysis Area



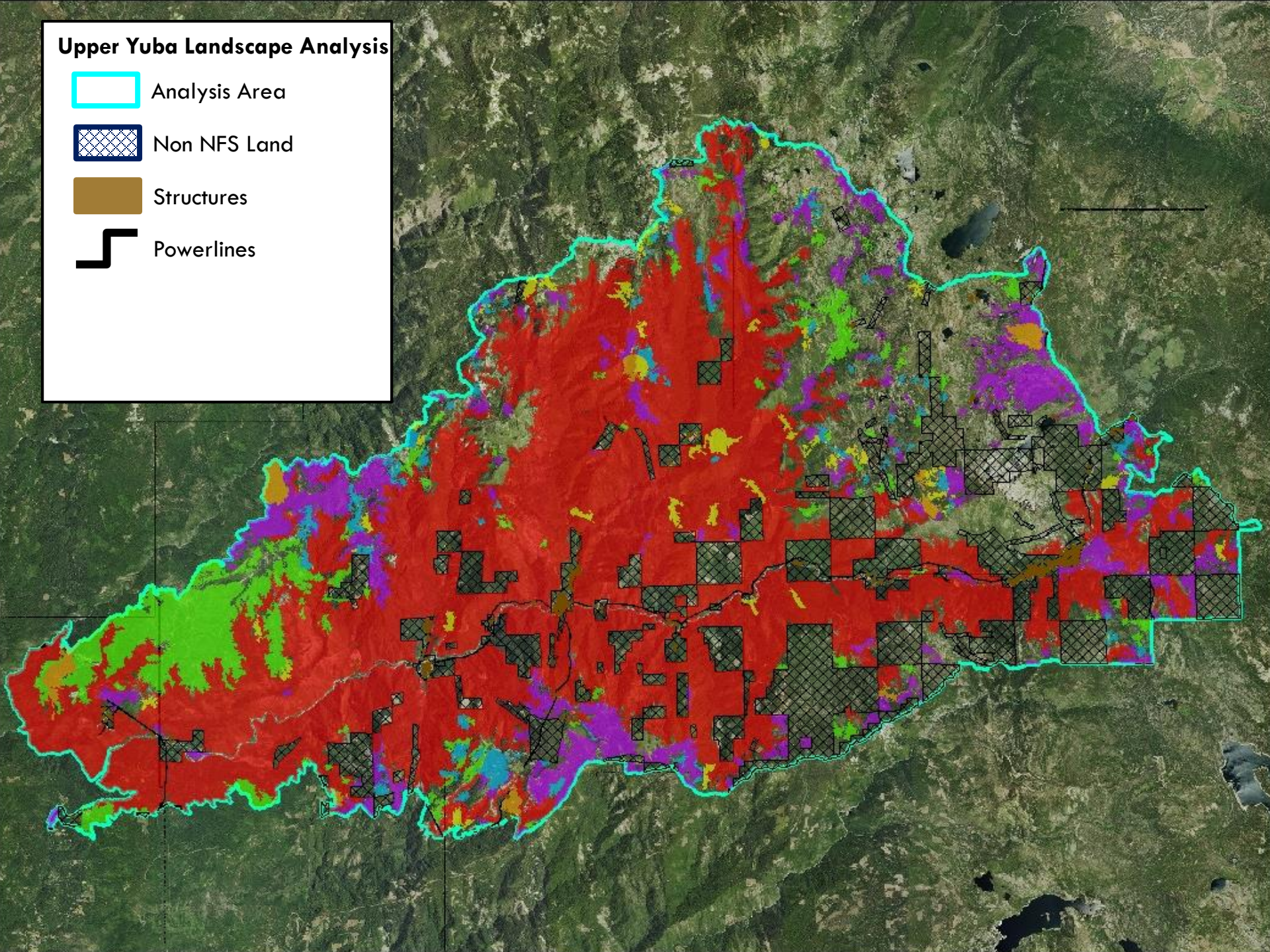
Non NFS Land



Structures



Powerlines





## Upper Yuba Landscape Analysis

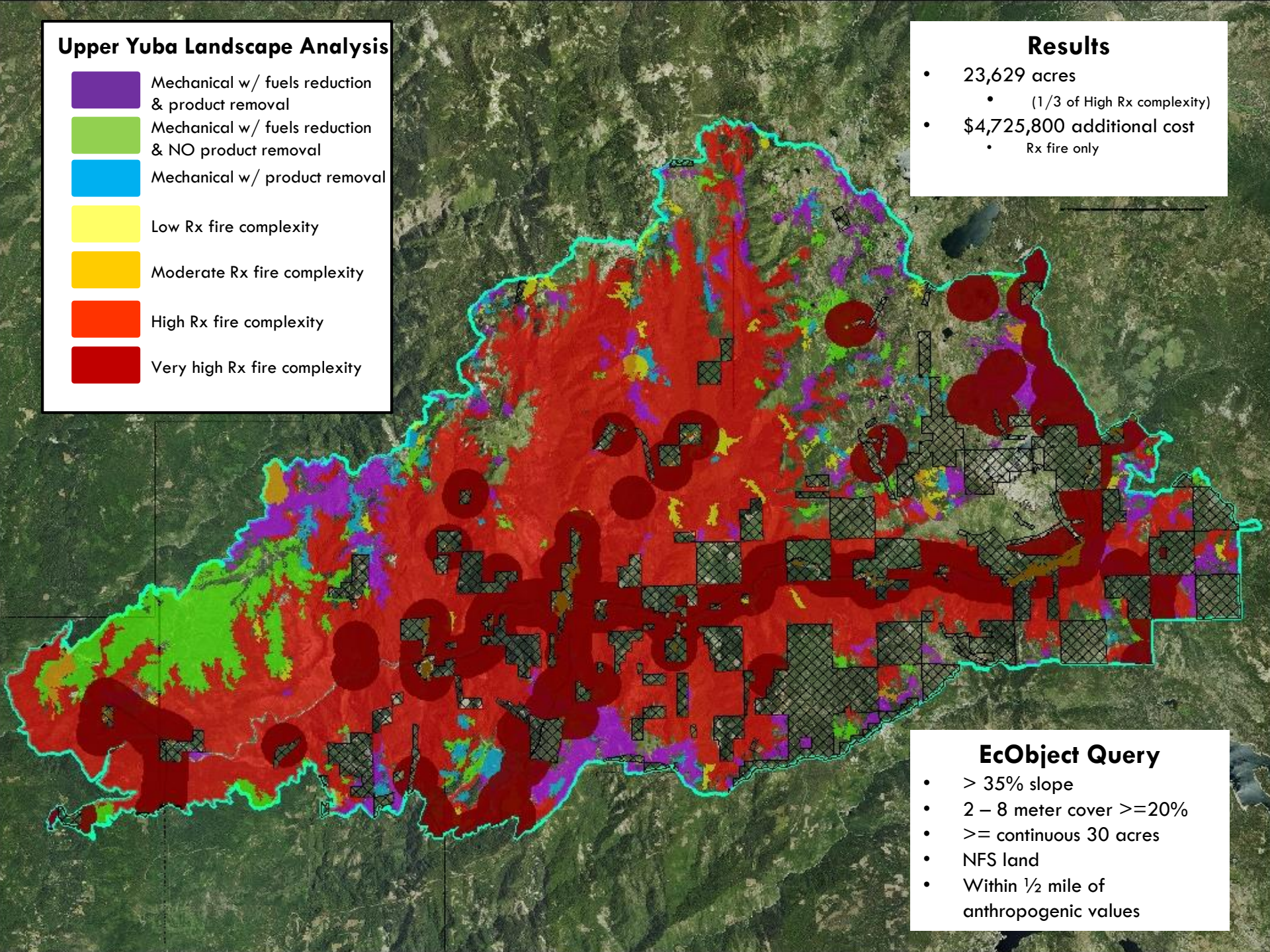
- Mechanical w/ fuels reduction & product removal
- Mechanical w/ fuels reduction & NO product removal
- Mechanical w/ product removal
- Low Rx fire complexity
- Moderate Rx fire complexity
- High Rx fire complexity
- Very high Rx fire complexity

## Results

- 23,629 acres
  - (1/3 of High Rx complexity)
- \$4,725,800 additional cost
  - Rx fire only

## EcObject Query

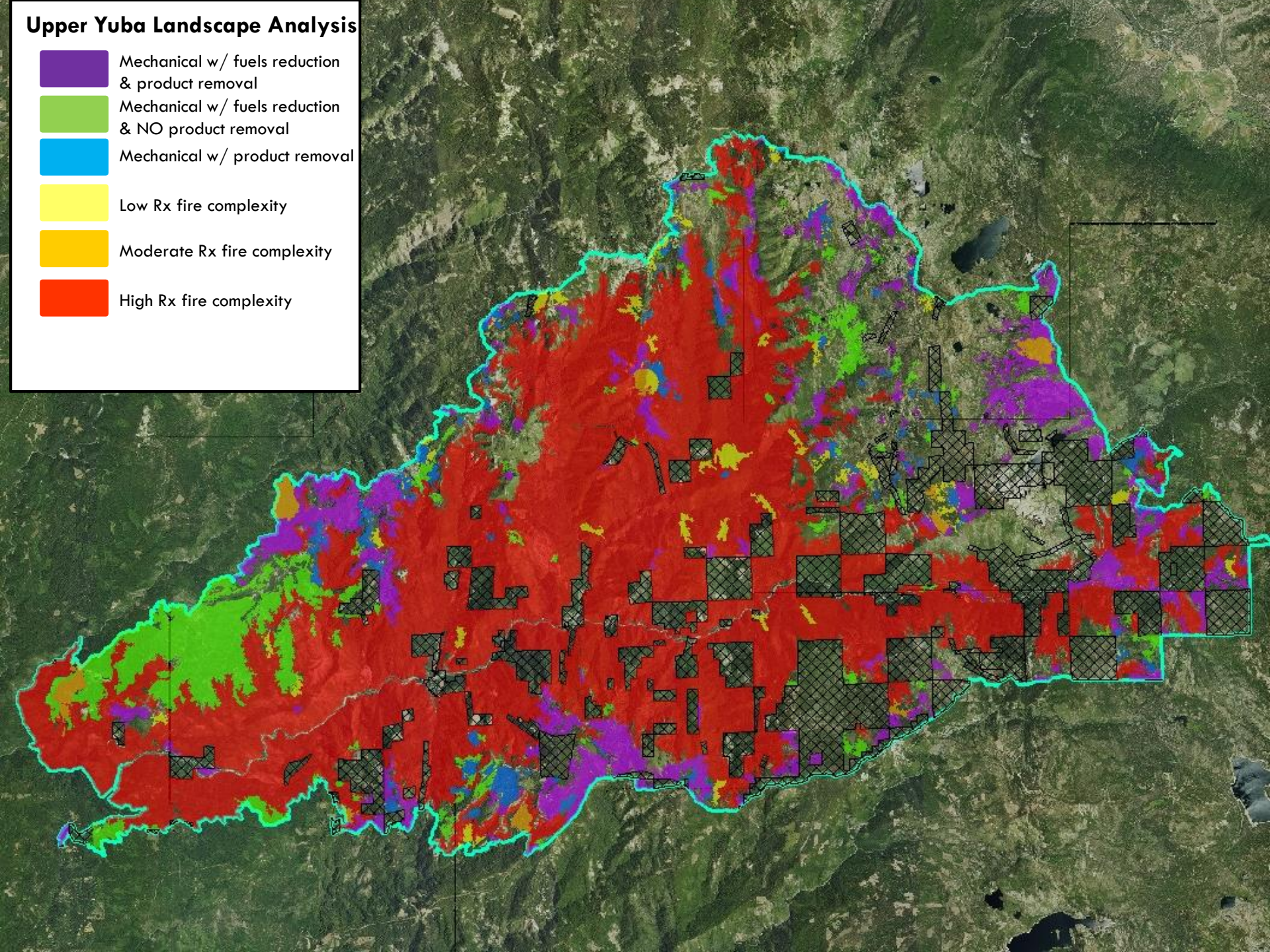
- > 35% slope
- 2 – 8 meter cover  $\geq 20\%$
- $\geq$  continuous 30 acres
- NFS land
- Within  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile of anthropogenic values





## Upper Yuba Landscape Analysis

- Mechanical w/ fuels reduction & product removal
- Mechanical w/ fuels reduction & NO product removal
- Mechanical w/ product removal
- Low Rx fire complexity
- Moderate Rx fire complexity
- High Rx fire complexity



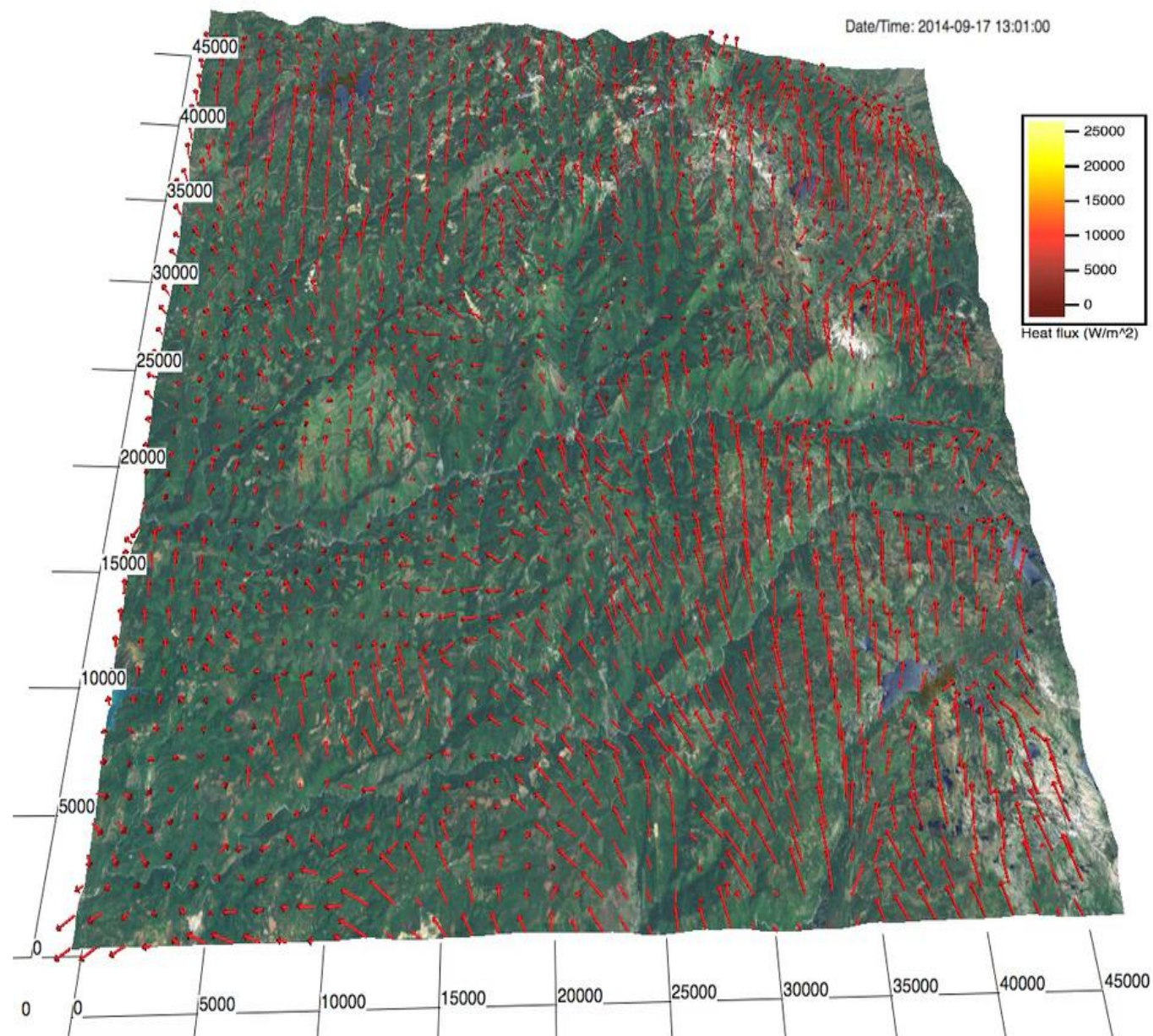


## Couple Atmosphere Wildland Fire Environment (CAWFE)

Goodyear Bar Fire  
Tahoe National Forest

↑ Wind direction/speed

- Developed in response to current fire models inability to predict large or mega fire growth
- CAWFE combines a numerical weather prediction model and a fire behavior model that simulates the growth of a wildfire in response to weather, fuel conditions, and terrain
- These models are two-way coupled to constantly exchange information that creates a positive feed back loop of weather influencing fire behavior and then the fire influencing weather – winds, humidity



### Credits:

Janice Coen – National Center for Atmospheric Research  
Natasha Stavoros – NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab  
Josephine Fite-Kaufman – USFS Region 5 Planning Team

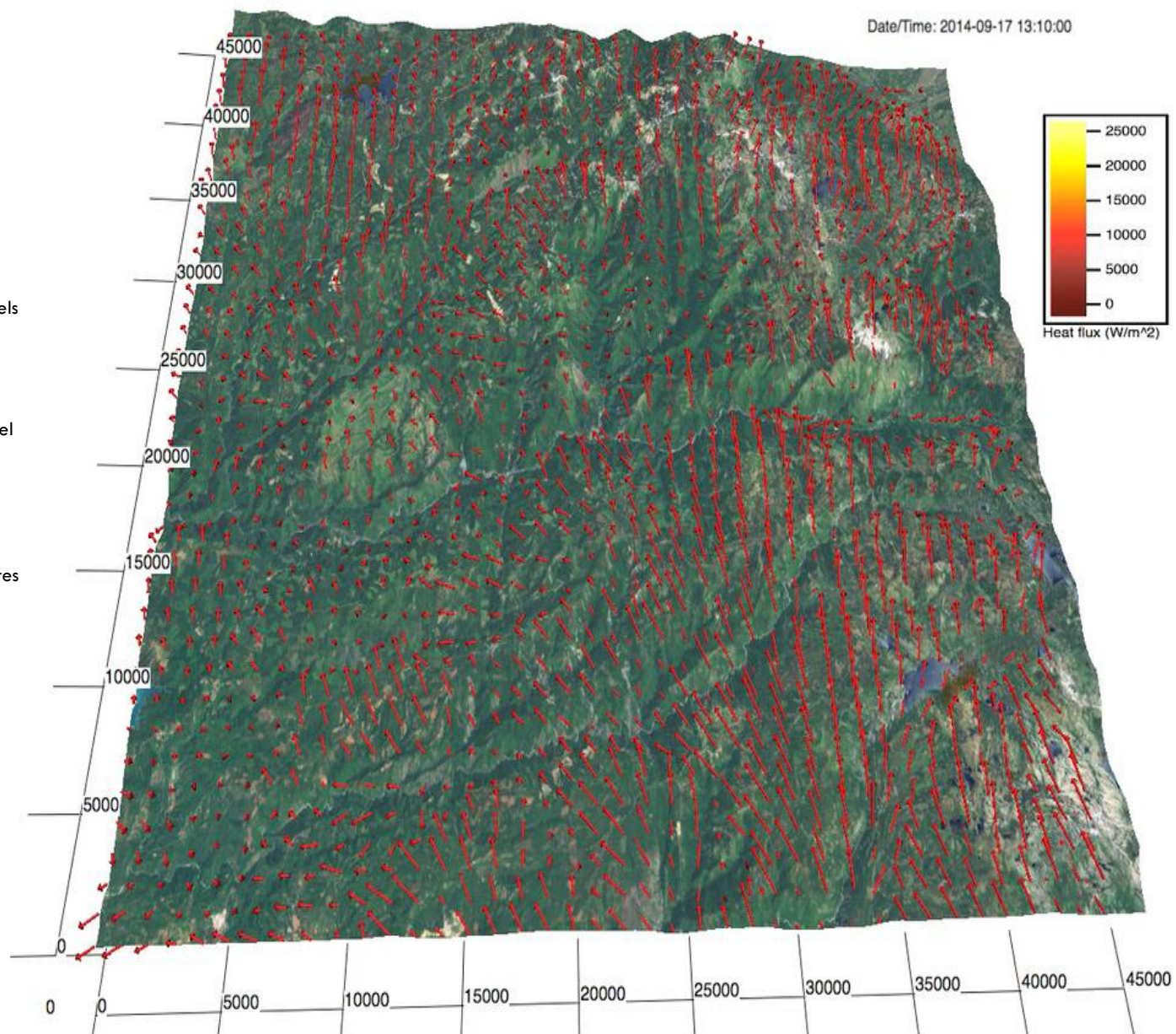


## Couple Atmosphere Wildland Fire Environment (CAWFE)

Goodyear Bar Fire  
Tahoe National Forest

↑ Wind direction/speed

- Developed in response to current fire models inability to predict large or mega fire growth
- CAWFE combines a numerical weather prediction model and a fire behavior model that simulates the growth of a wildfire in response to weather, fuel conditions, and terrain
- These models are two-way coupled to constantly exchange information that creates a positive feed back loop of weather influencing fire behavior and then the fire influencing weather – winds, humidity
- Models smoke amounts and dispersion
- Both behavior and smoke outputs can be improved by high resolution LiDAR informed fuels data



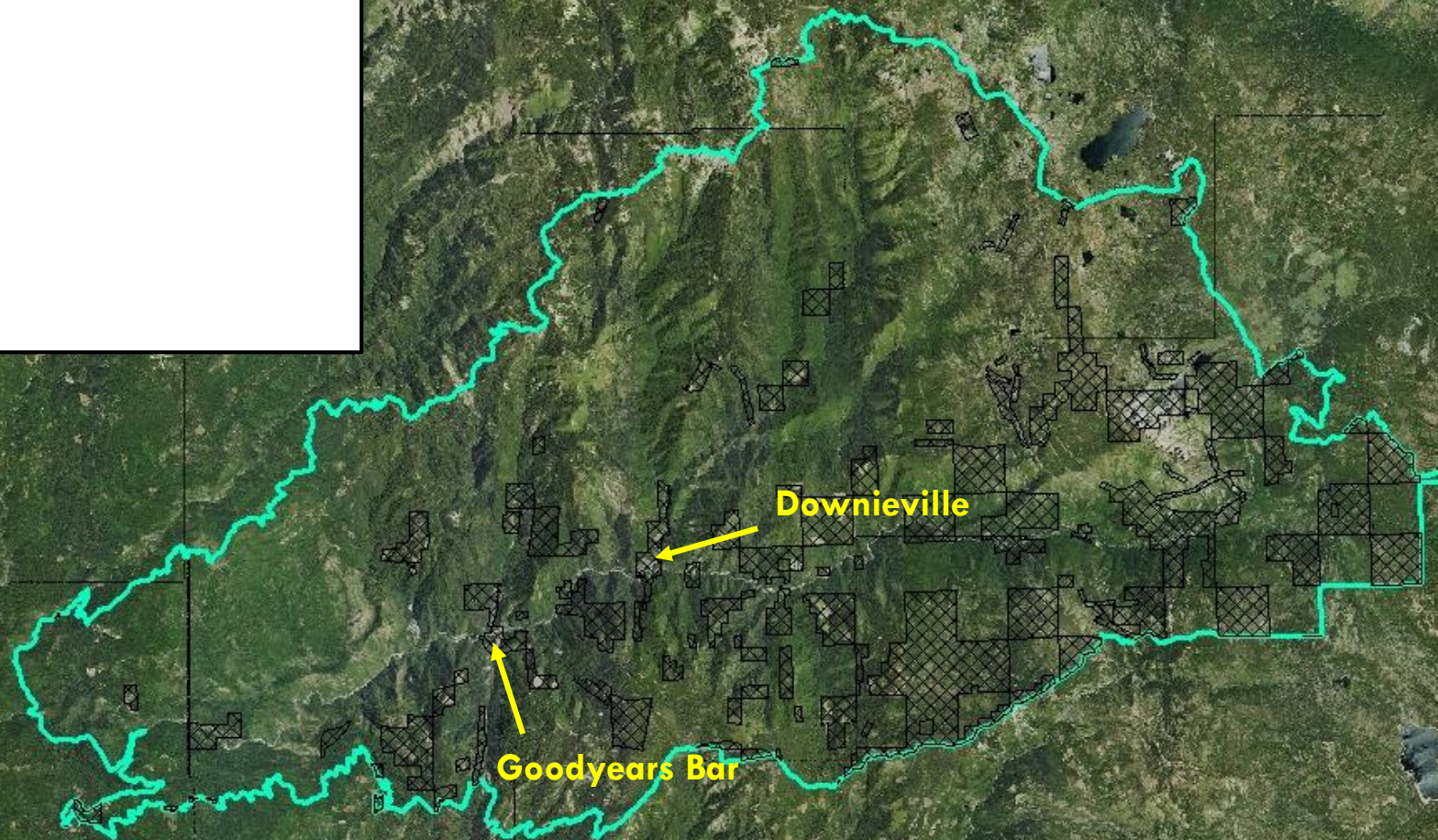
### Credits:

Janice Coen – National Center for Atmospheric Research  
Natasha Stavoros – NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab  
Josephine Fite-Kaufman – USFS Region 5 Planning Team



# Goodyear Bar Fire Scenario

September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014



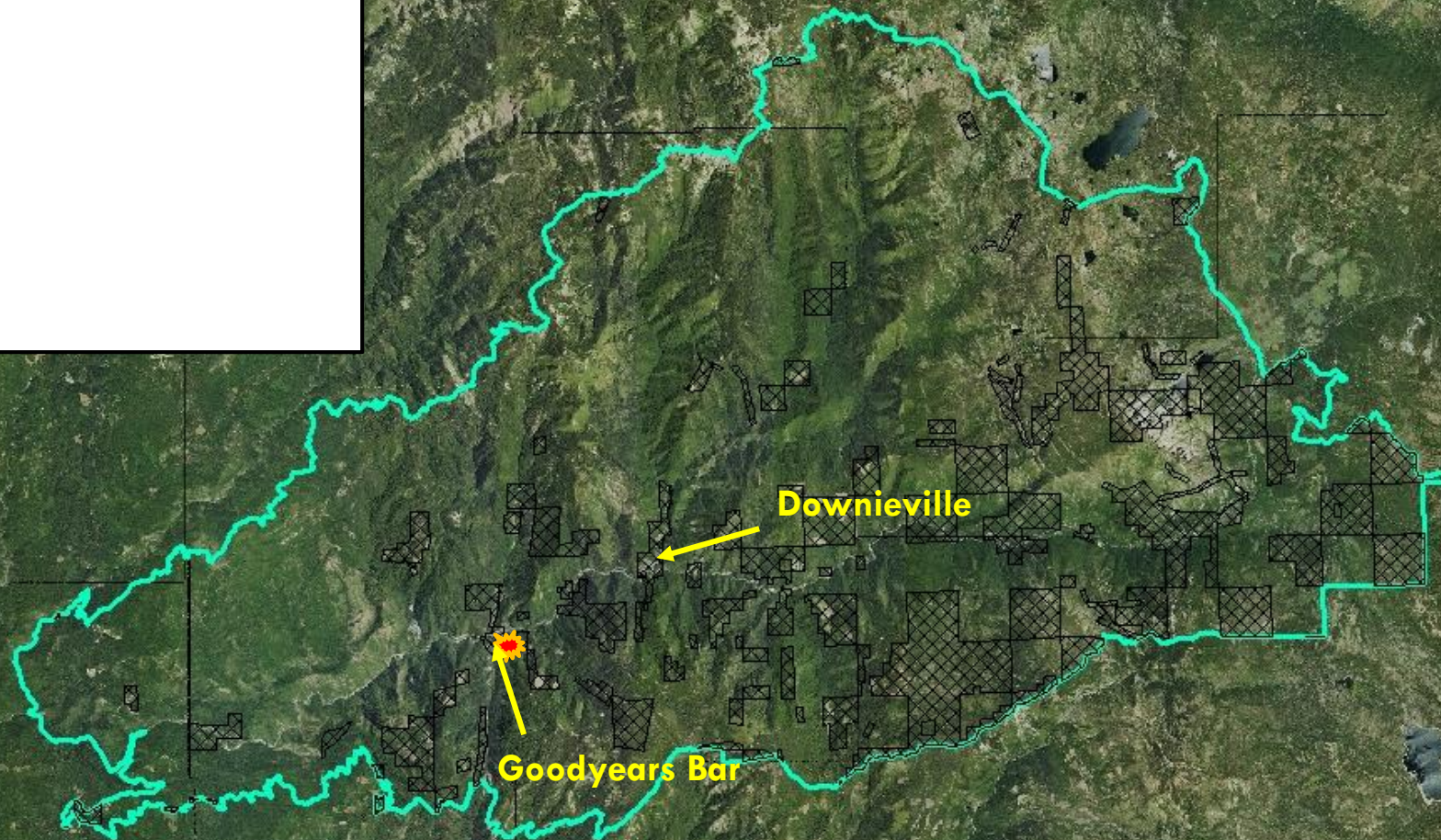


# Goodyear Bar Fire Scenario

September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014



12:30pm Fire Start





## Goodyear Bar Fire Scenario

September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014

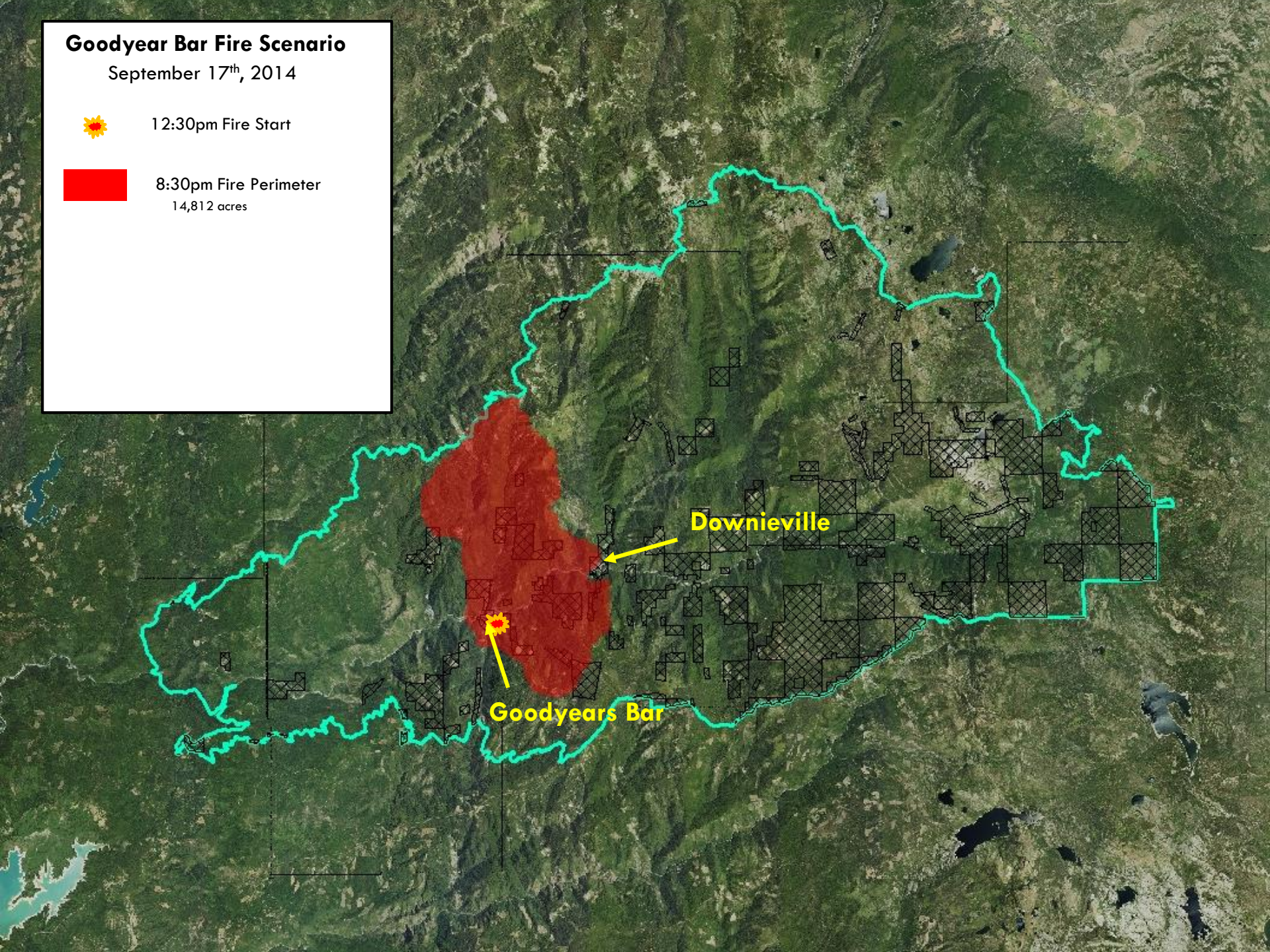


12:30pm Fire Start



8:30pm Fire Perimeter

14,812 acres





# Goodyear Bar Fire Scenario

September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014

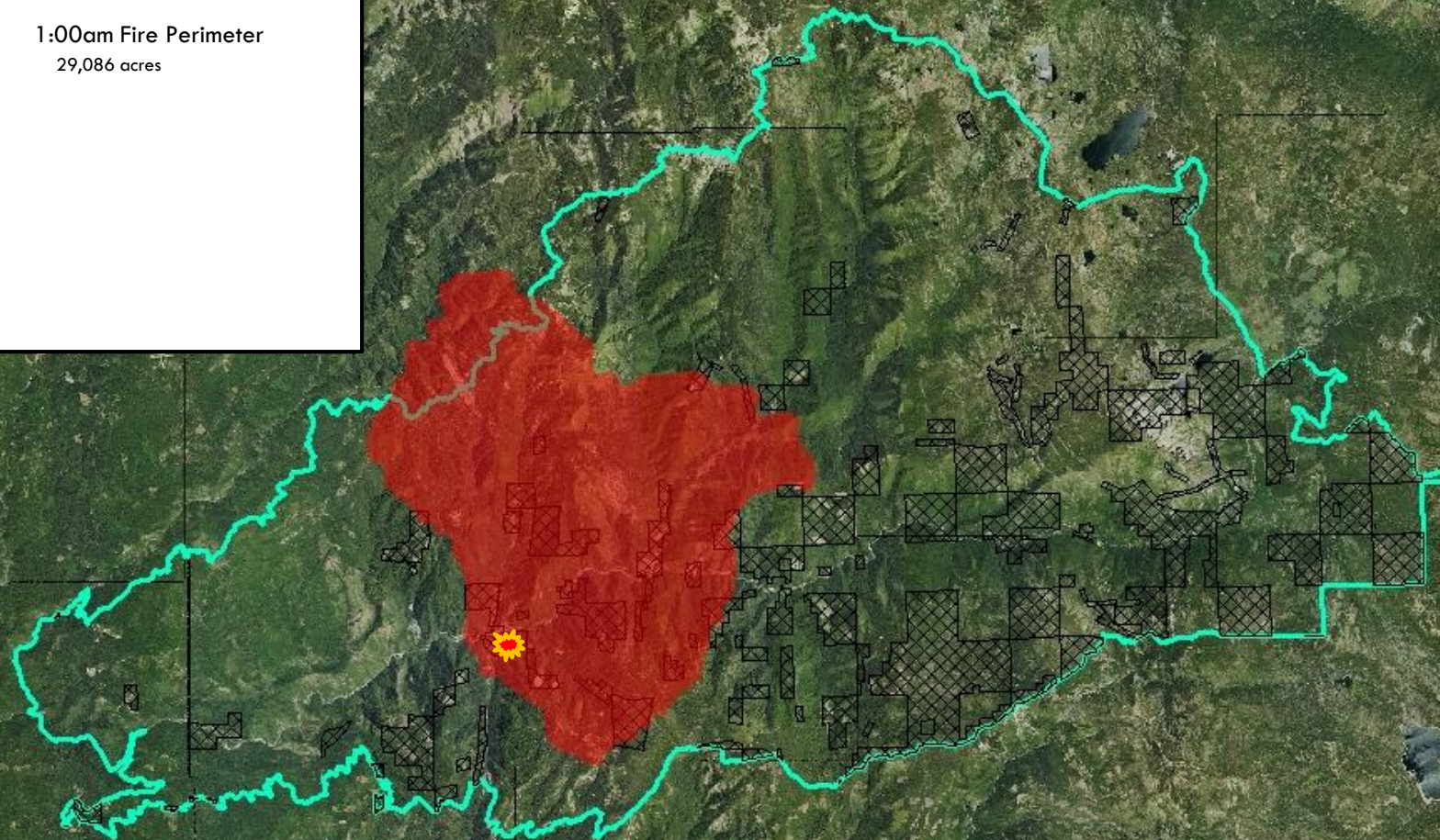


12:30pm Fire Start (9/17/14)



1:00am Fire Perimeter

29,086 acres





## Goodyear Bar Fire Scenario

September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014



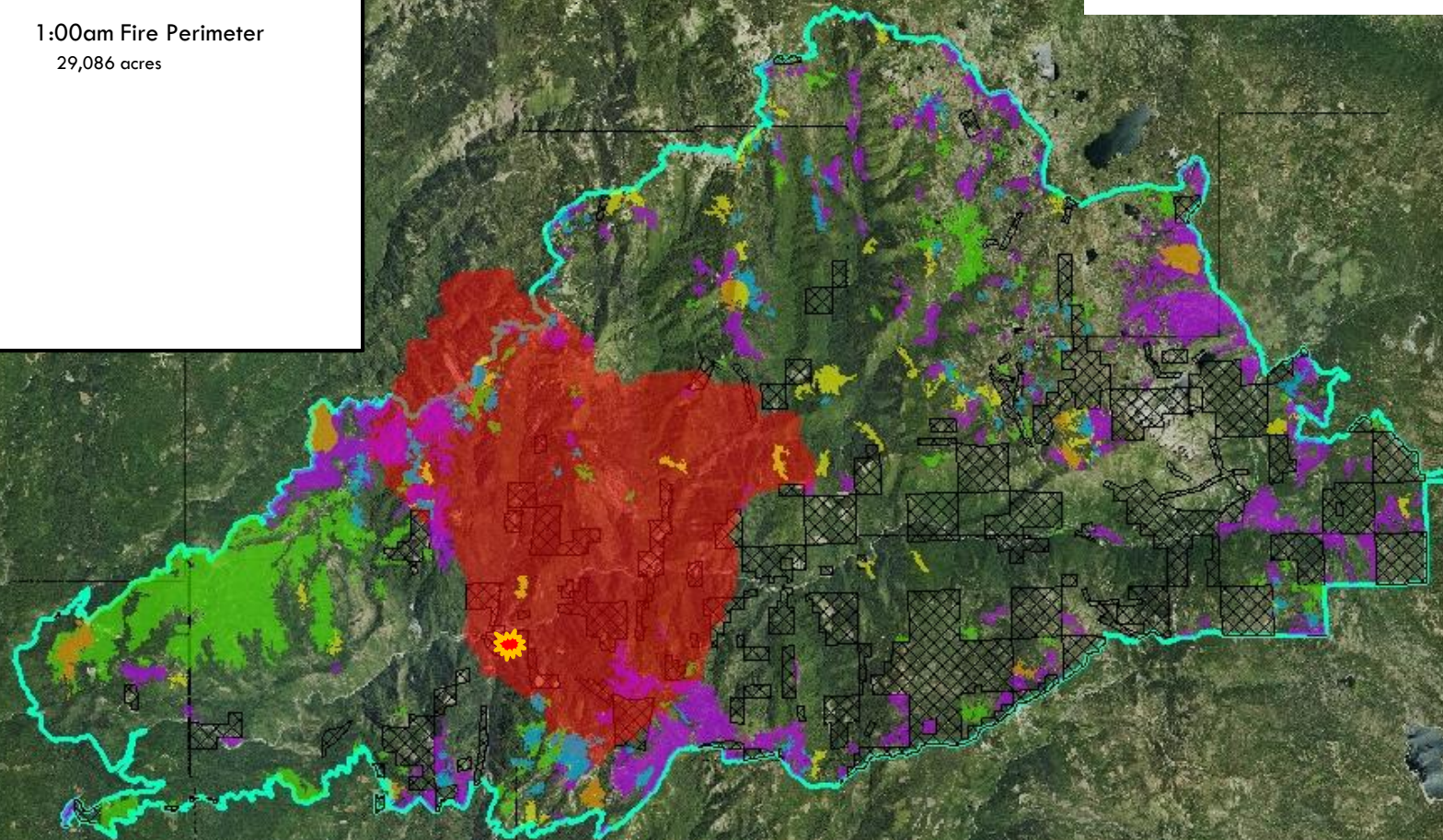
12:30pm Fire Start (9/17/14)



1:00am Fire Perimeter  
29,086 acres

## LHF Acres

- 23,060 acres
- ~ 19% of NFS analysis area
- ~\$0 total cost

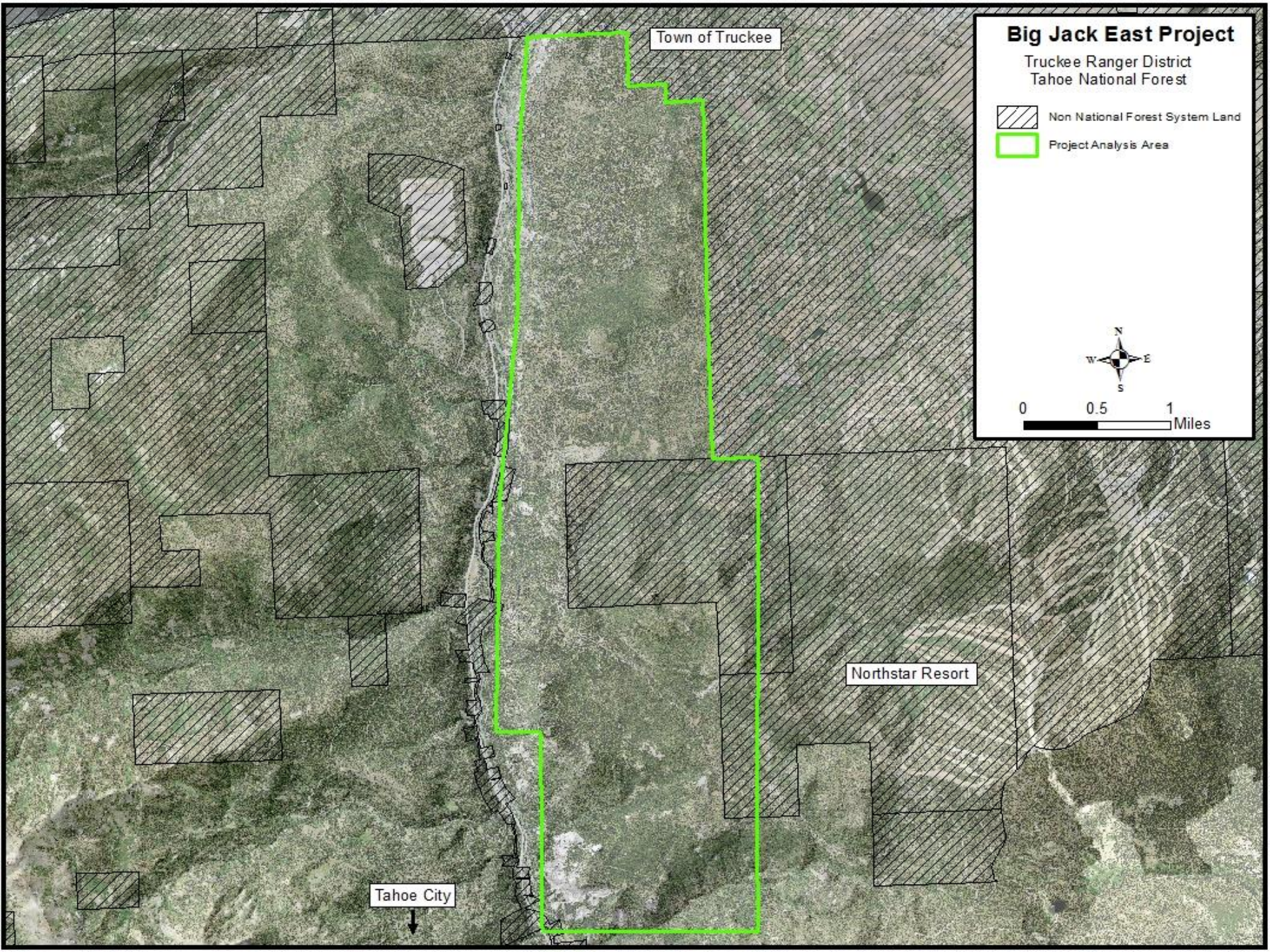




# LIDAR AIDED PROJECT LAYOUT









Town of Truckee

# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Non National Forest System Land
-  Project Analysis Area

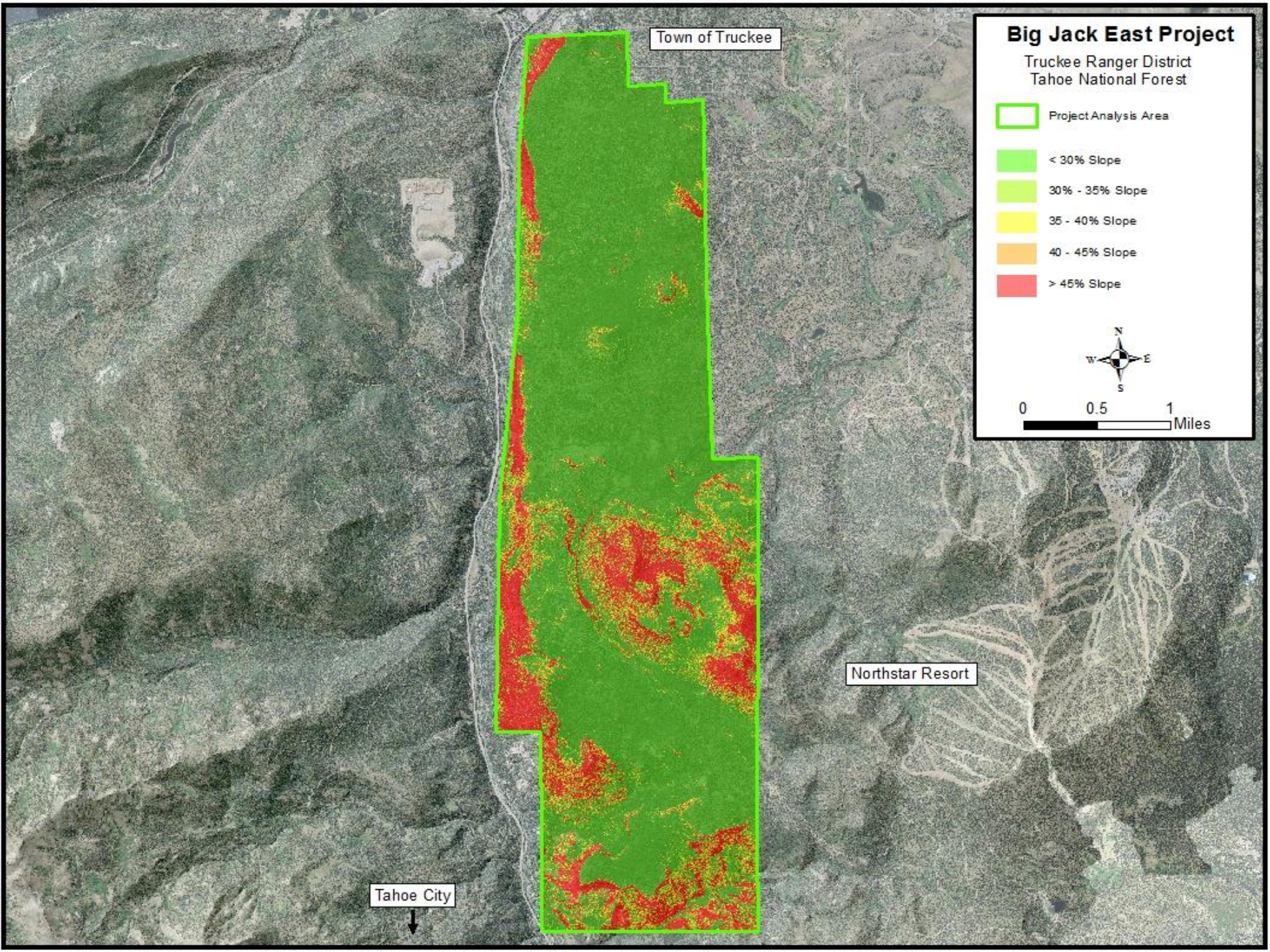


0 0.5 1 Miles

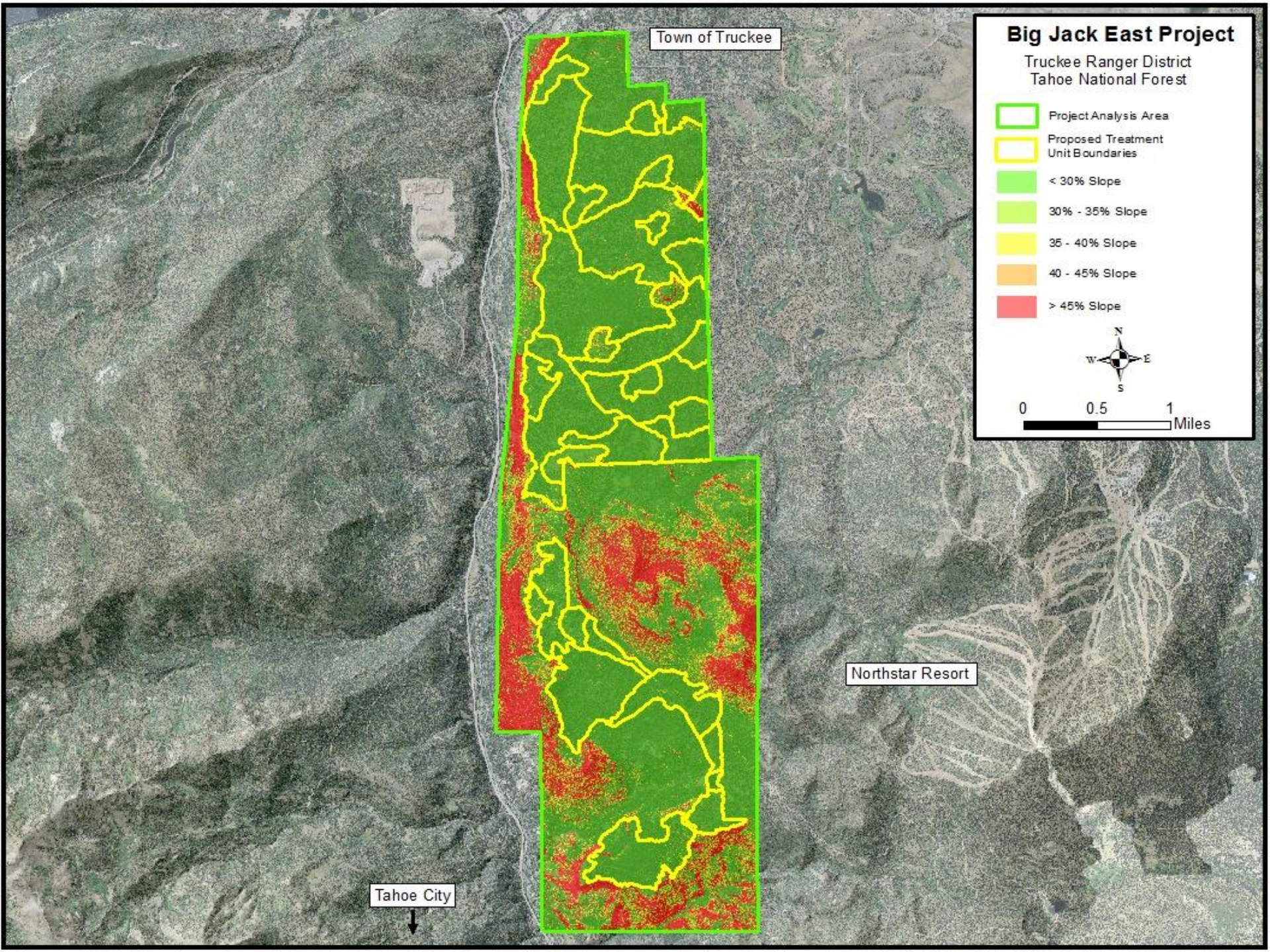
Northstar Resort

Tahoe City















Town of Truckee

# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Project Analysis Area
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  < 30% Slope
-  30% - 35% Slope
-  35 - 40% Slope
-  40 - 45% Slope
-  > 45% Slope



0 0.5 1 Miles








Northstar Resort

Tahoe City



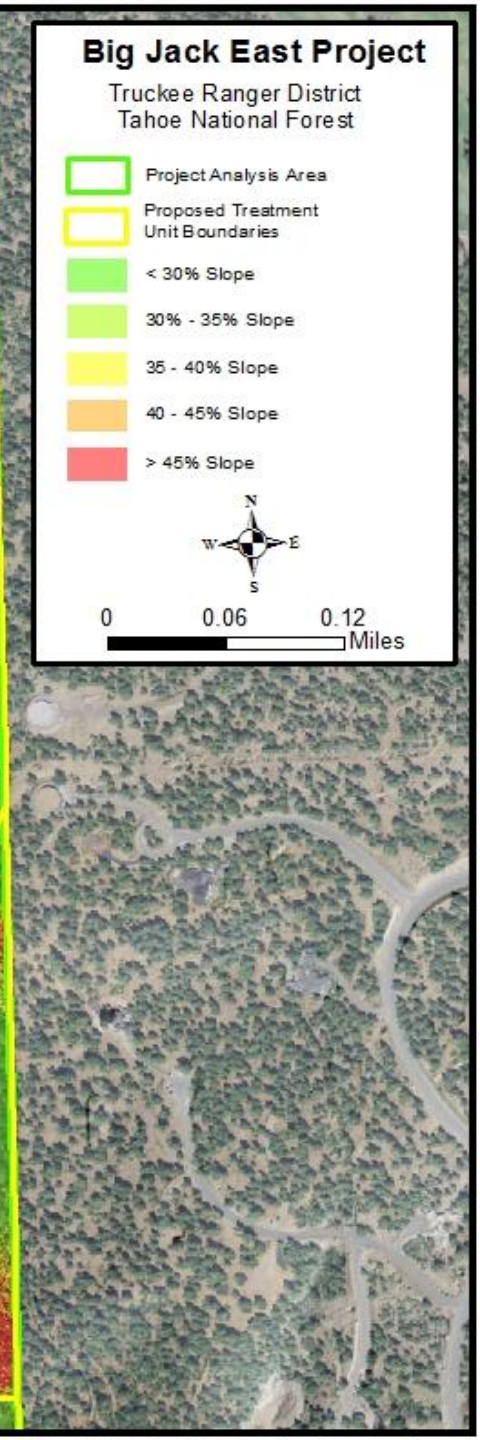
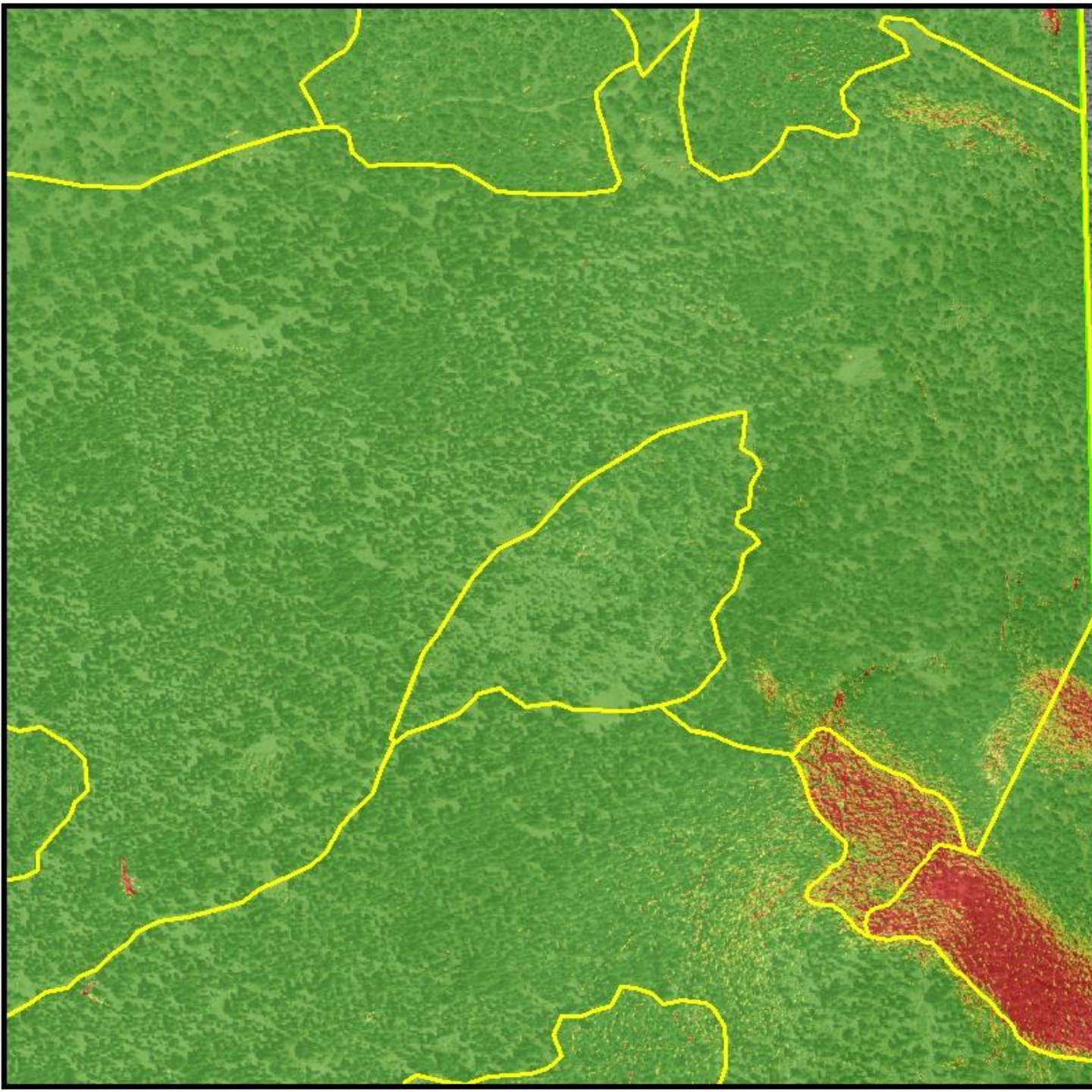
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Project Analysis Area
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  < 30% Slope
-  30% - 35% Slope
-  35 - 40% Slope
-  40 - 45% Slope
-  > 45% Slope



0 0.06 0.12 Miles





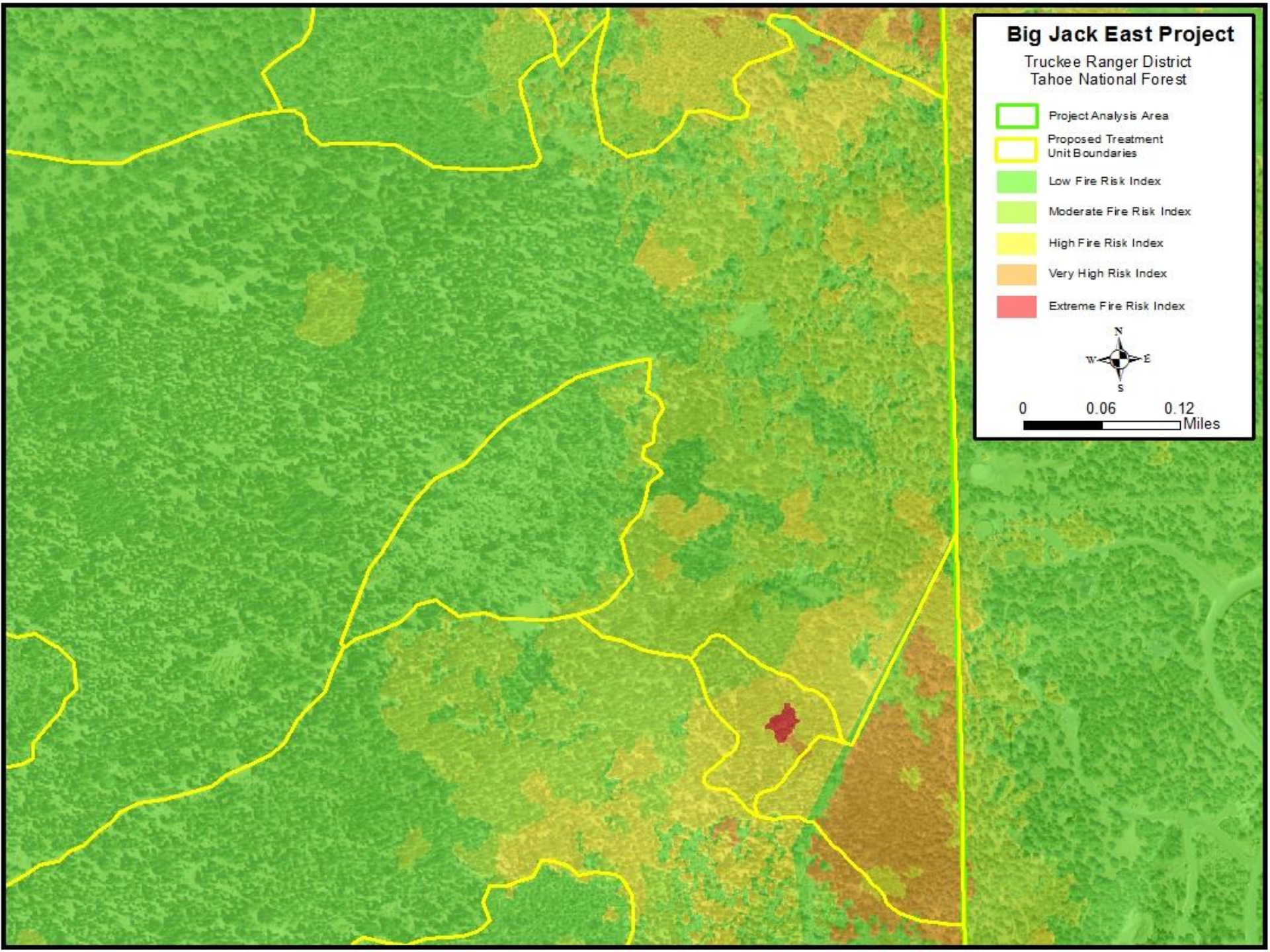

# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Project Analysis Area
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  Low Fire Risk Index
-  Moderate Fire Risk Index
-  High Fire Risk Index
-  Very High Risk Index
-  Extreme Fire Risk Index










0 0.06 0.12 Miles





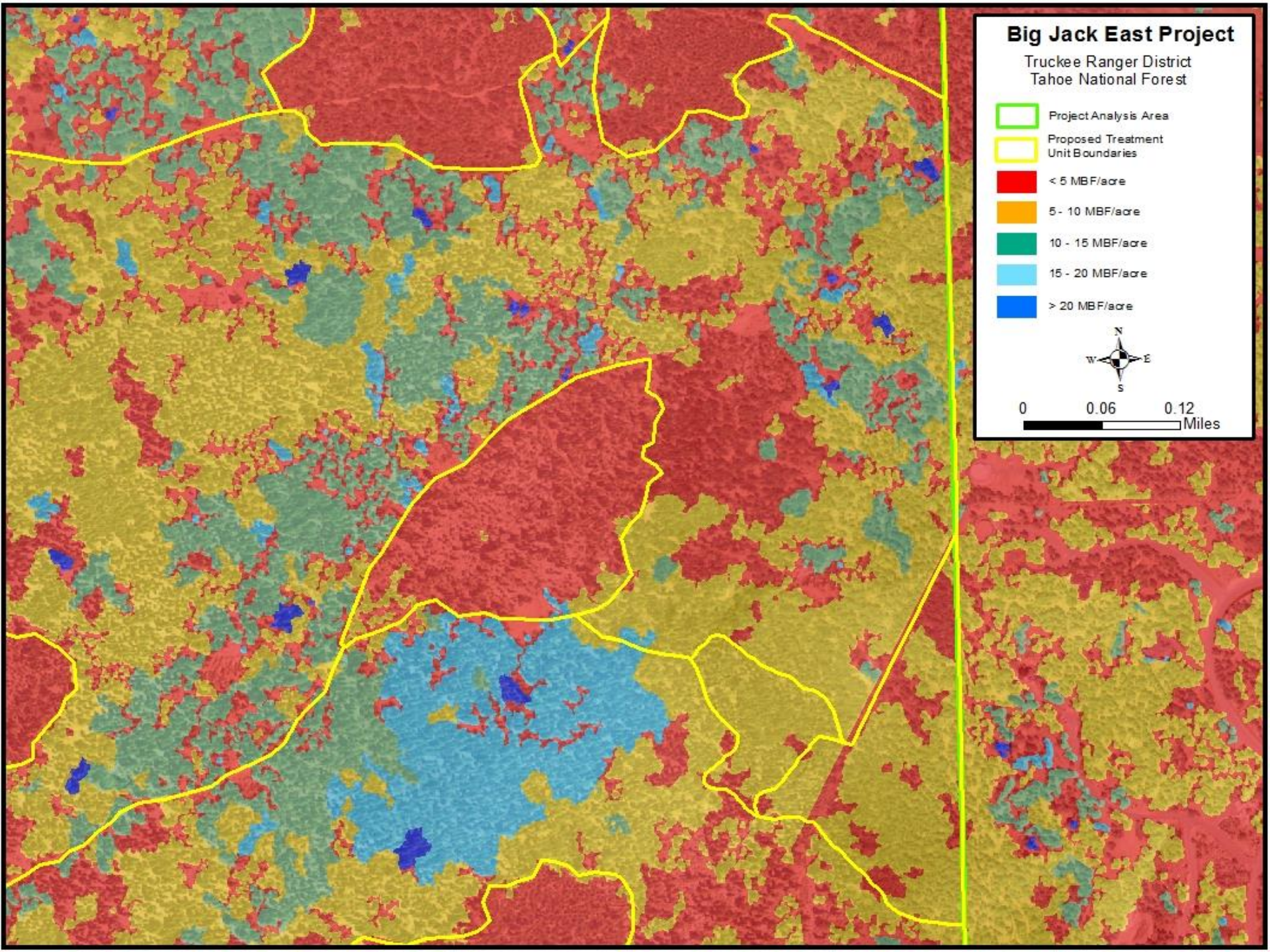

# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Project Analysis Area
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  < 5 MBF/acre
-  5 - 10 MBF/acre
-  10 - 15 MBF/acre
-  15 - 20 MBF/acre
-  > 20 MBF/acre





0 0.06 0.12 Miles





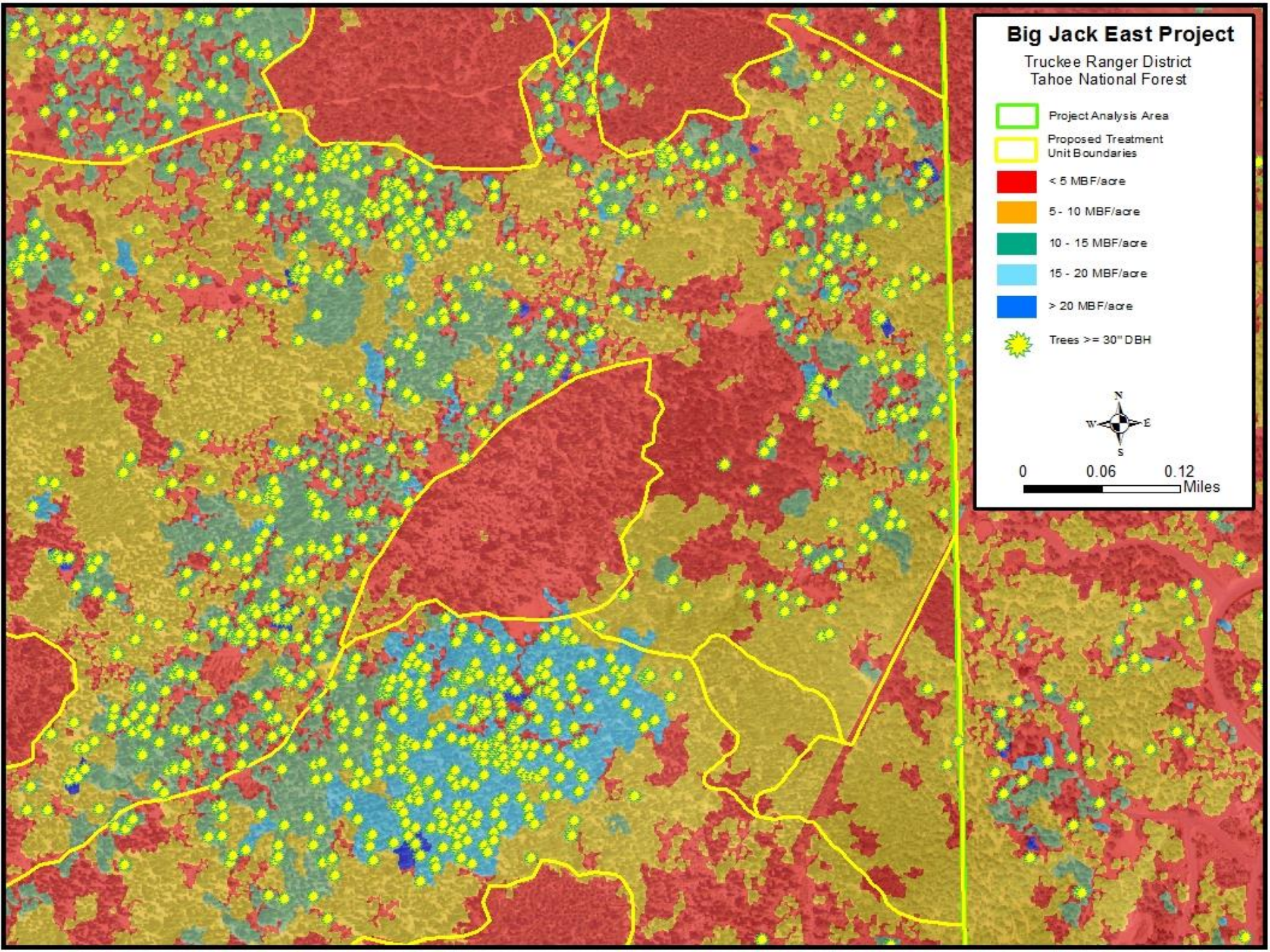
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Project Analysis Area
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  < 5 MBF/acre
-  5 - 10 MBF/acre
-  10 - 15 MBF/acre
-  15 - 20 MBF/acre
-  > 20 MBF/acre
-  Trees  $\geq 30''$  DBH



0 0.06 0.12 Miles





# LIDAR AIDED PROJECT SURVEYS



## Credits:


Mike Cartmill – USFS Truckee Ranger District


John Brokaw – USFS Truckee Ranger District



# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest


 Project Analysis Area

 Proposed Treatment  
Unit Boundaries

 1 Meter Hills shade



0 0.06 0.12 Miles






# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Project Analysis Area
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  1 Meter Hillshade







0 0.015 0.03 Miles






# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Project Analysis Area
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  1 Meter Hills shade
-  Streams  
(National Hydrography Dataset)



0 0.06 0.12 Miles





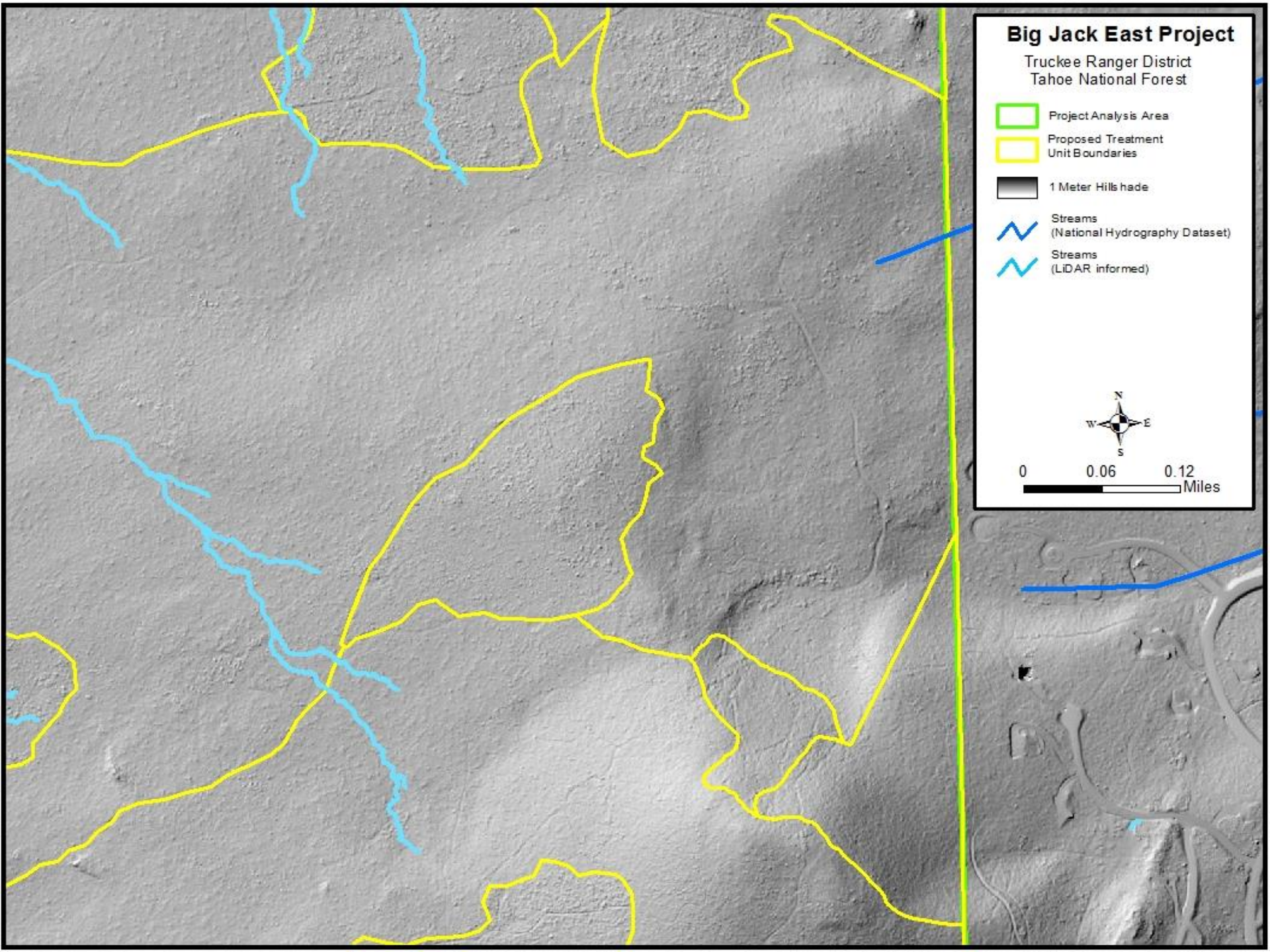
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

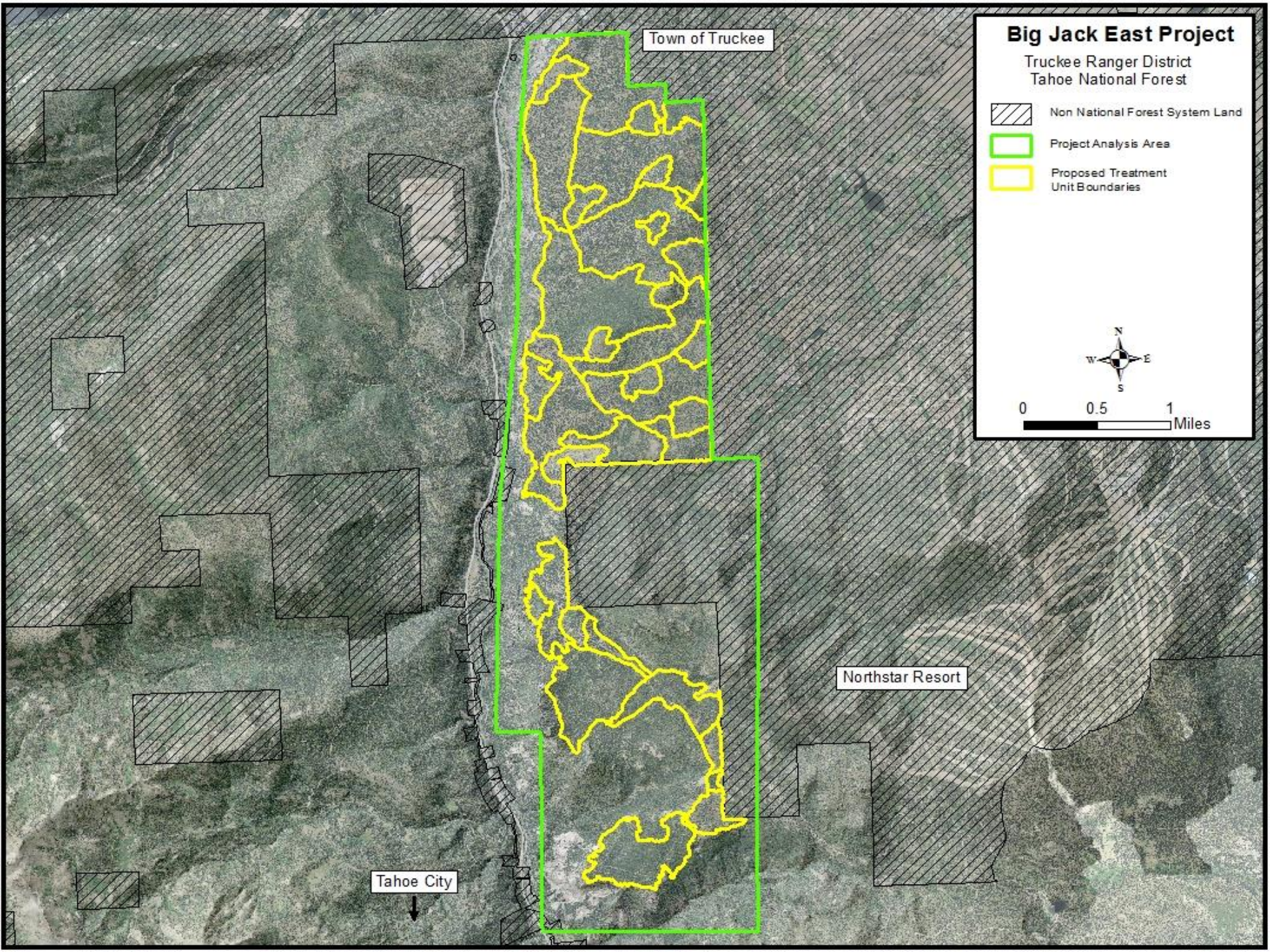
-  Project Analysis Area
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  1 Meter Hills shade
-  Streams (National Hydrography Dataset)
-  Streams (LiDAR informed)



0 0.06 0.12 Miles







Town of Truckee

# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Non National Forest System Land
-  Project Analysis Area
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries





0 0.5 1 Miles

Northstar Resort

Tahoe City

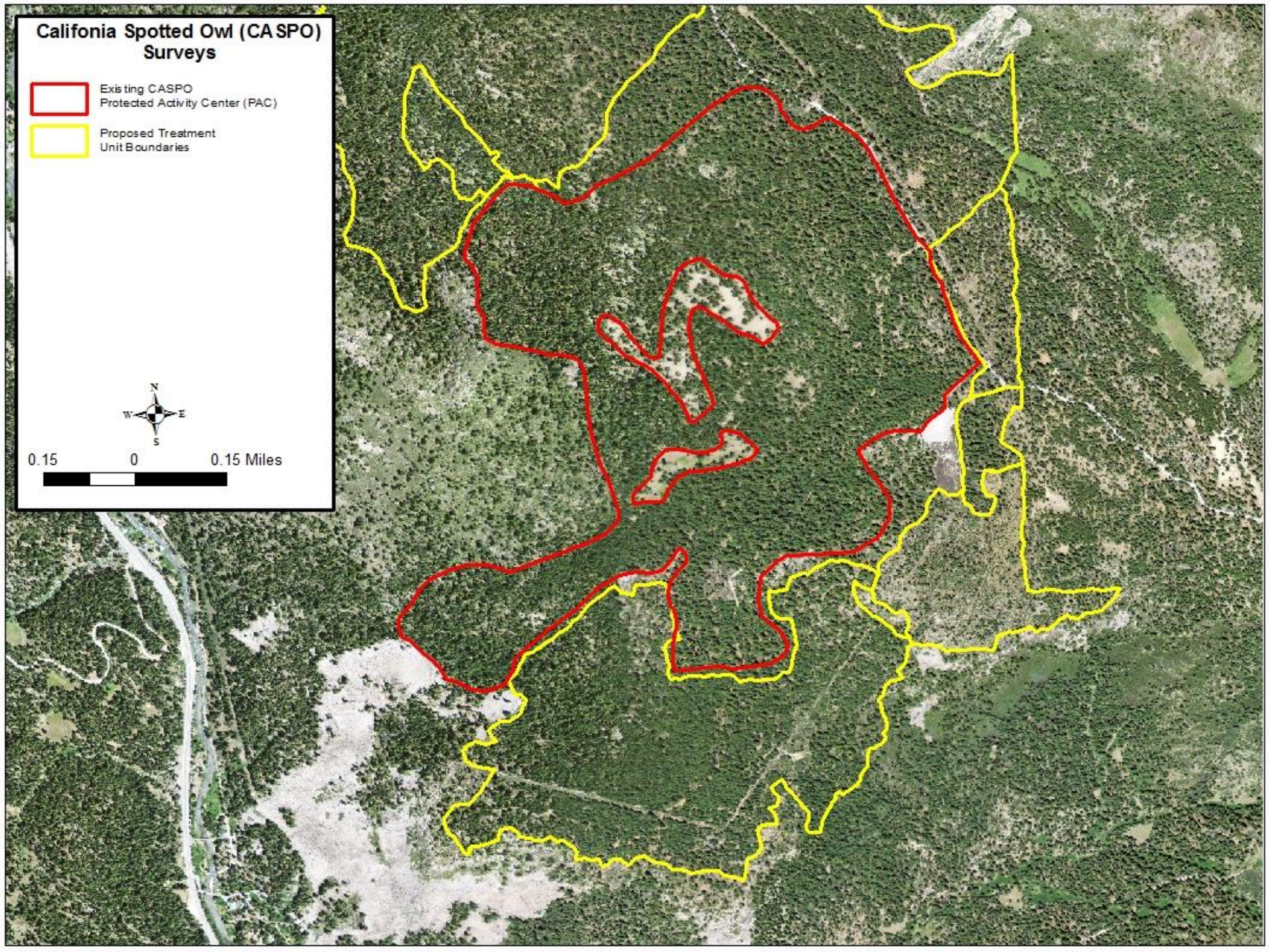


# California Spotted Owl (CASPO) Surveys

-  Existing CASPO  
Protected Activity Center (PAC)
-  Proposed Treatment  
Unit Boundaries






0.15 0 0.15 Miles



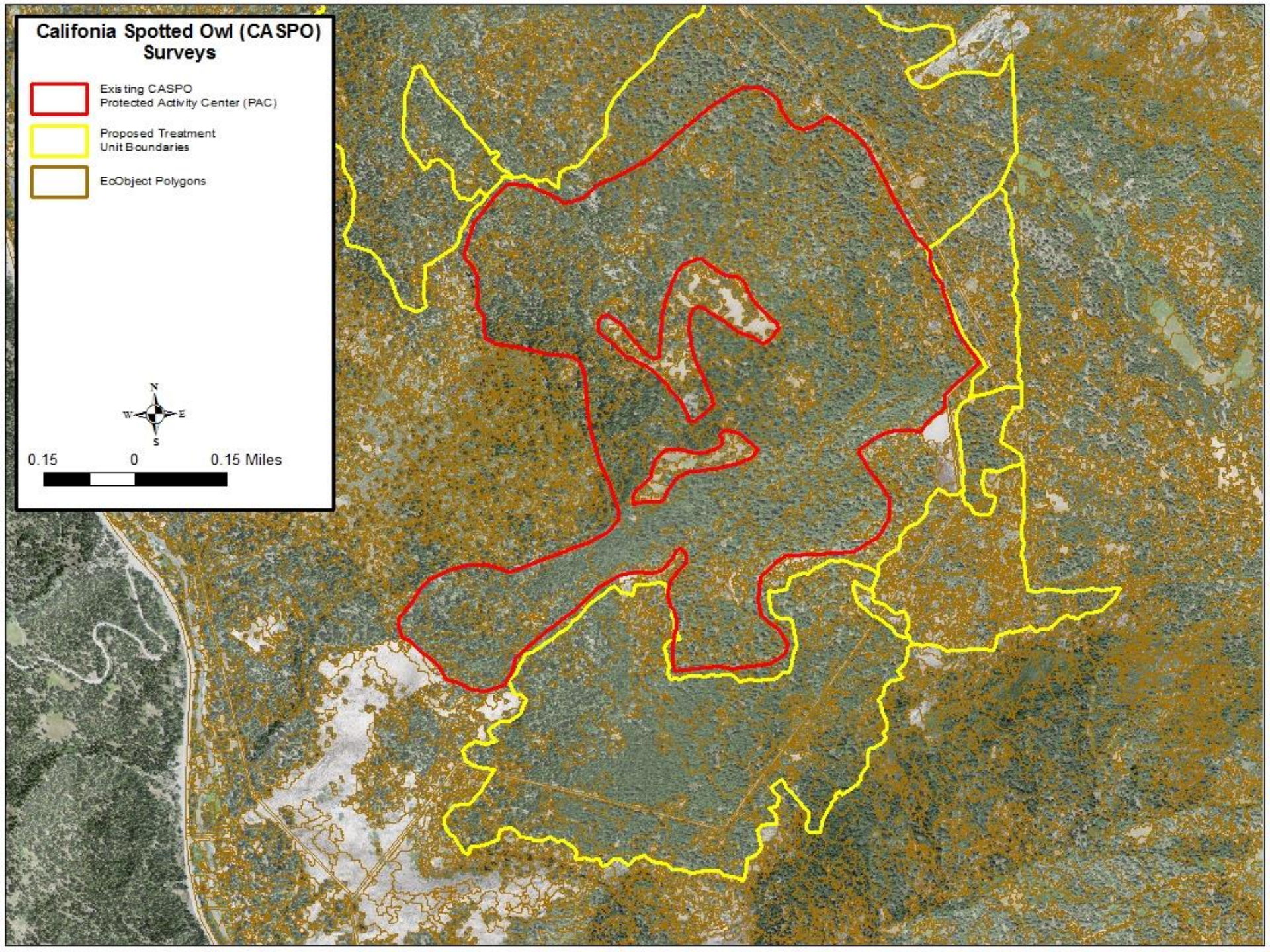


# California Spotted Owl (CASPO) Surveys

-  Existing CASPO  
Protected Activity Center (PAC)
-  Proposed Treatment  
Unit Boundaries
-  EoObject Polygons







0.15 0 0.15 Miles





# California Spotted Owl (CASPO) Surveys

-  Existing CASPO Protected Activity Center (PAC)
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  EcObject Polygons
-  Accurate Daytime CASPO Observations







0.15 0 0.15 Miles





## California Spotted Owl (CASPO) Surveys

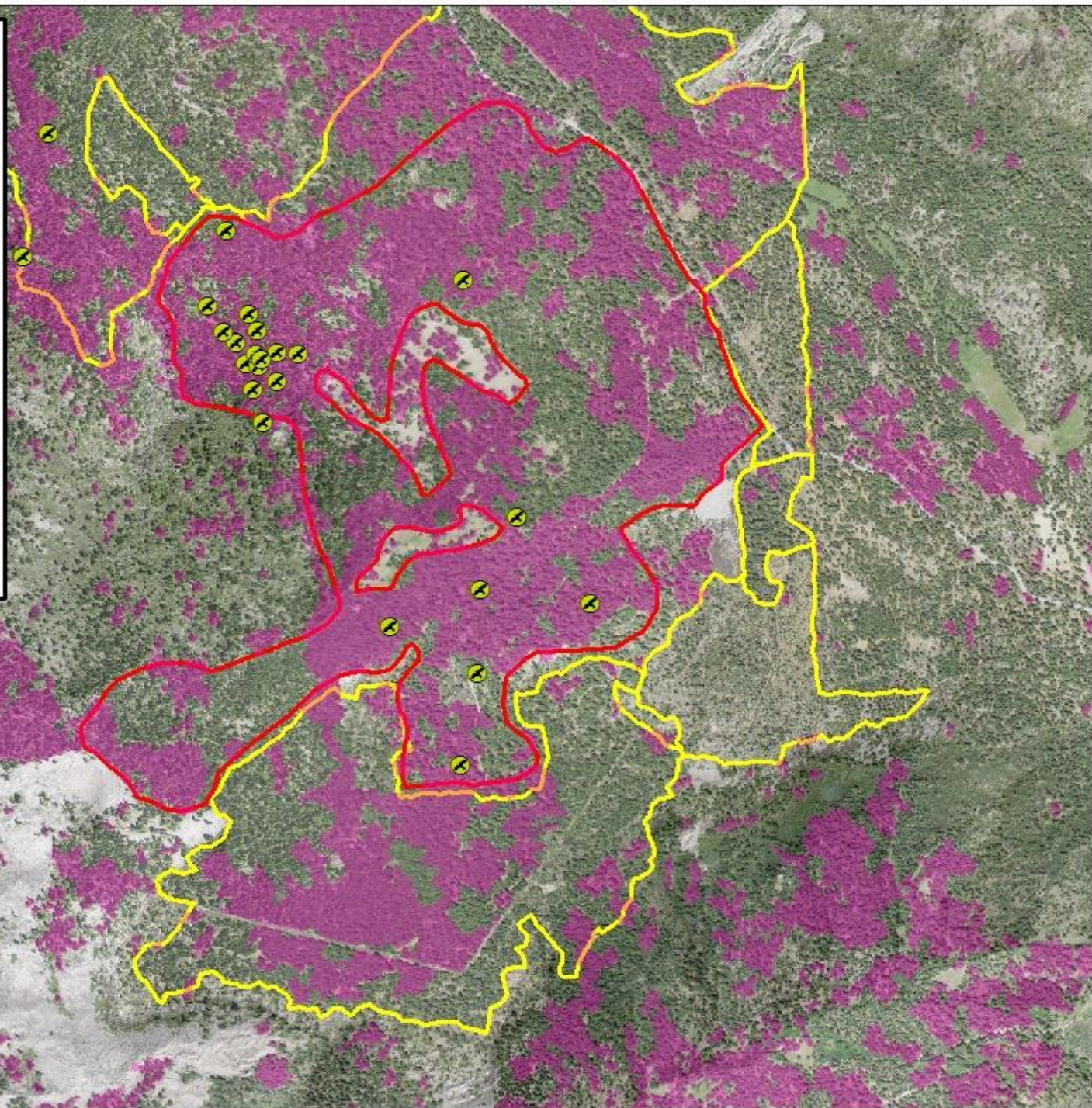
-  Existing CASPO Protected Activity Center (PAC)
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  Accurate Daytime CASPO Observations
-  Big Chief CASPO Habitat Selection



0.15 0 0.15 Miles

### Selection Criteria

- > 17.9" Avg DBH
- > 50% Canopy Cover
- Multi strata
- Continuous





## California Spotted Owl (CASPO) Surveys

-  Existing CASPO Protected Activity Center (PAC)
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  Accurate Daytime CASPO Observations
-  Big Chief CASPO Habitat Selection
-  Additional Detections

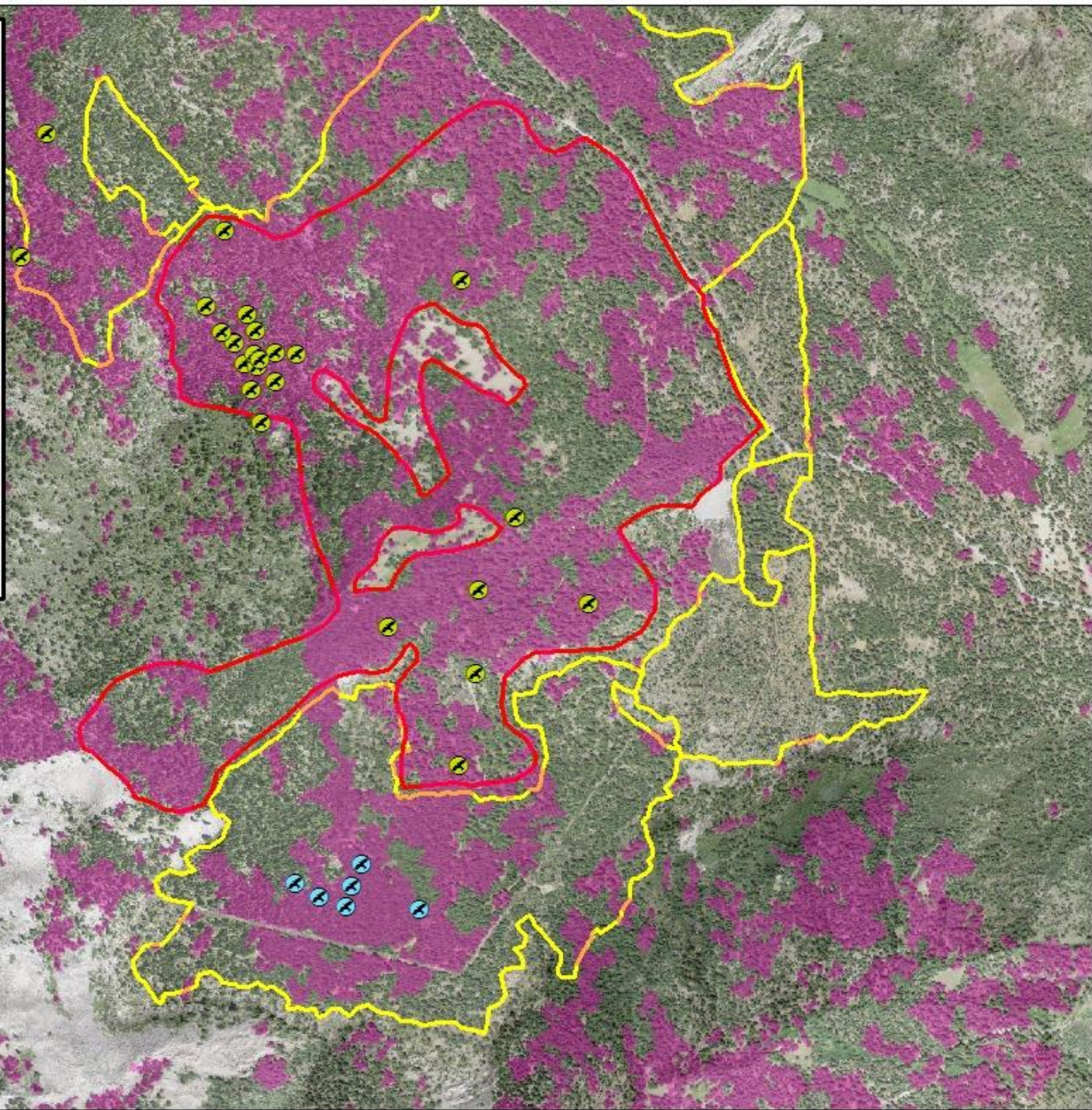


0.15 0 0.15 Miles



### Selection Criteria

- > 17.9" Avg DBH
- > 50% Canopy Cover
- Multi strata
- Continuous





# LIDAR AIDED RESTORATION TREATMENT ANALYSIS

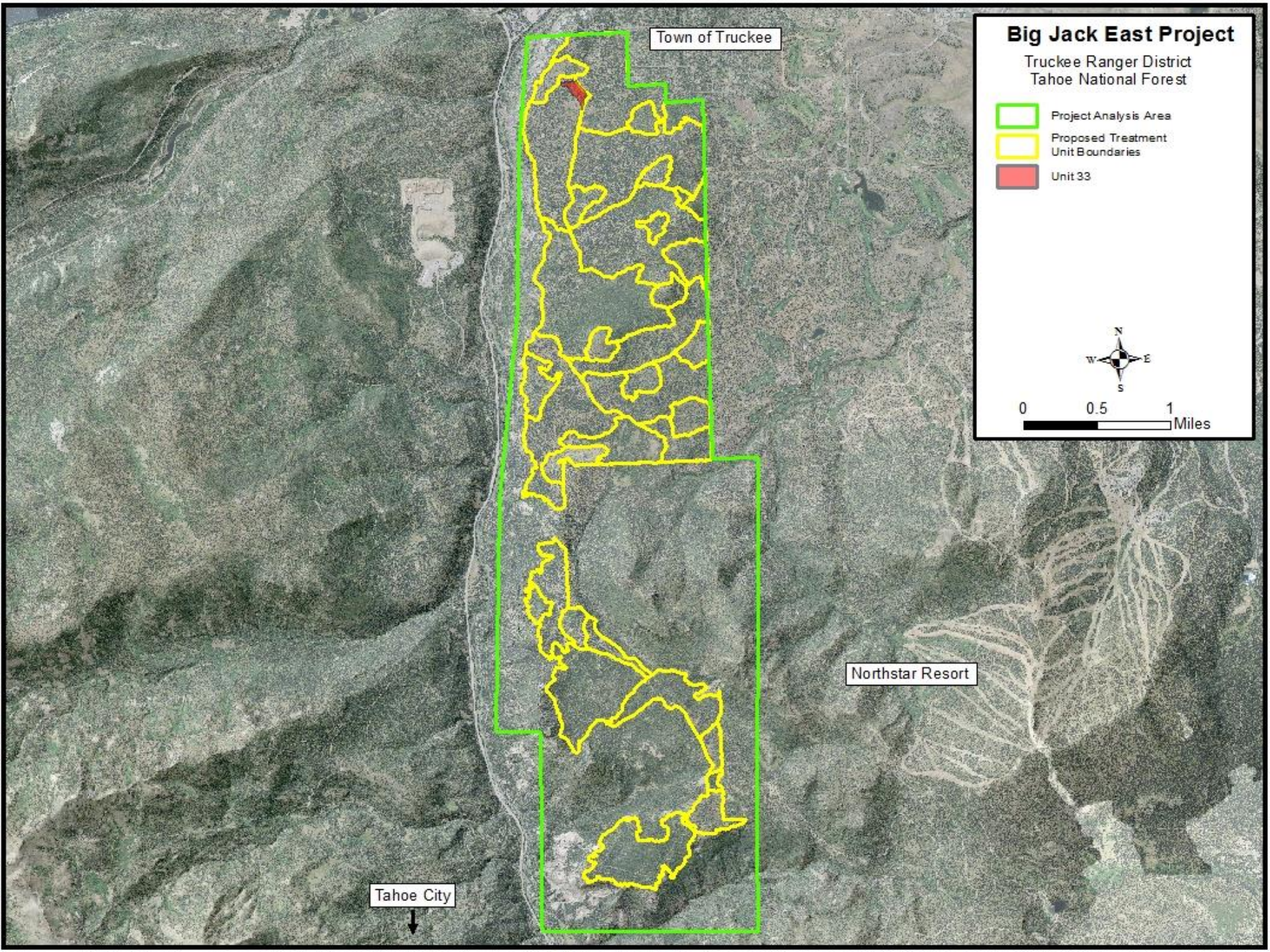


## Credits:

Mike Cartmill – USFS Truckee Ranger District

John Brokaw – USFS Truckee Ranger District








Town of Truckee

# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Project Analysis Area
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  Unit 33



0 0.5 1 Miles




Northstar Resort

Tahoe City



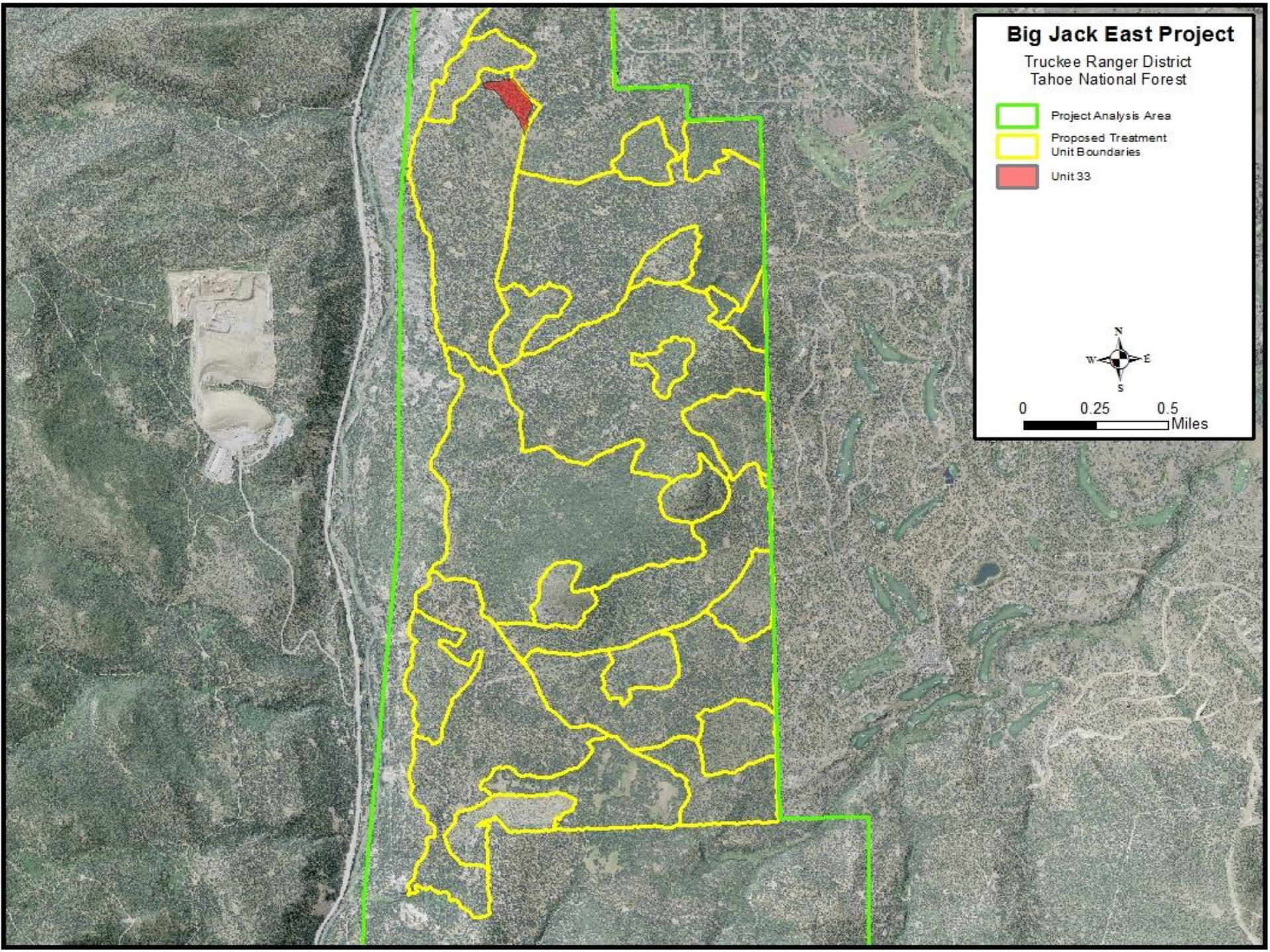
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Project Analysis Area
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  Unit 33






0 0.25 0.5  
Miles





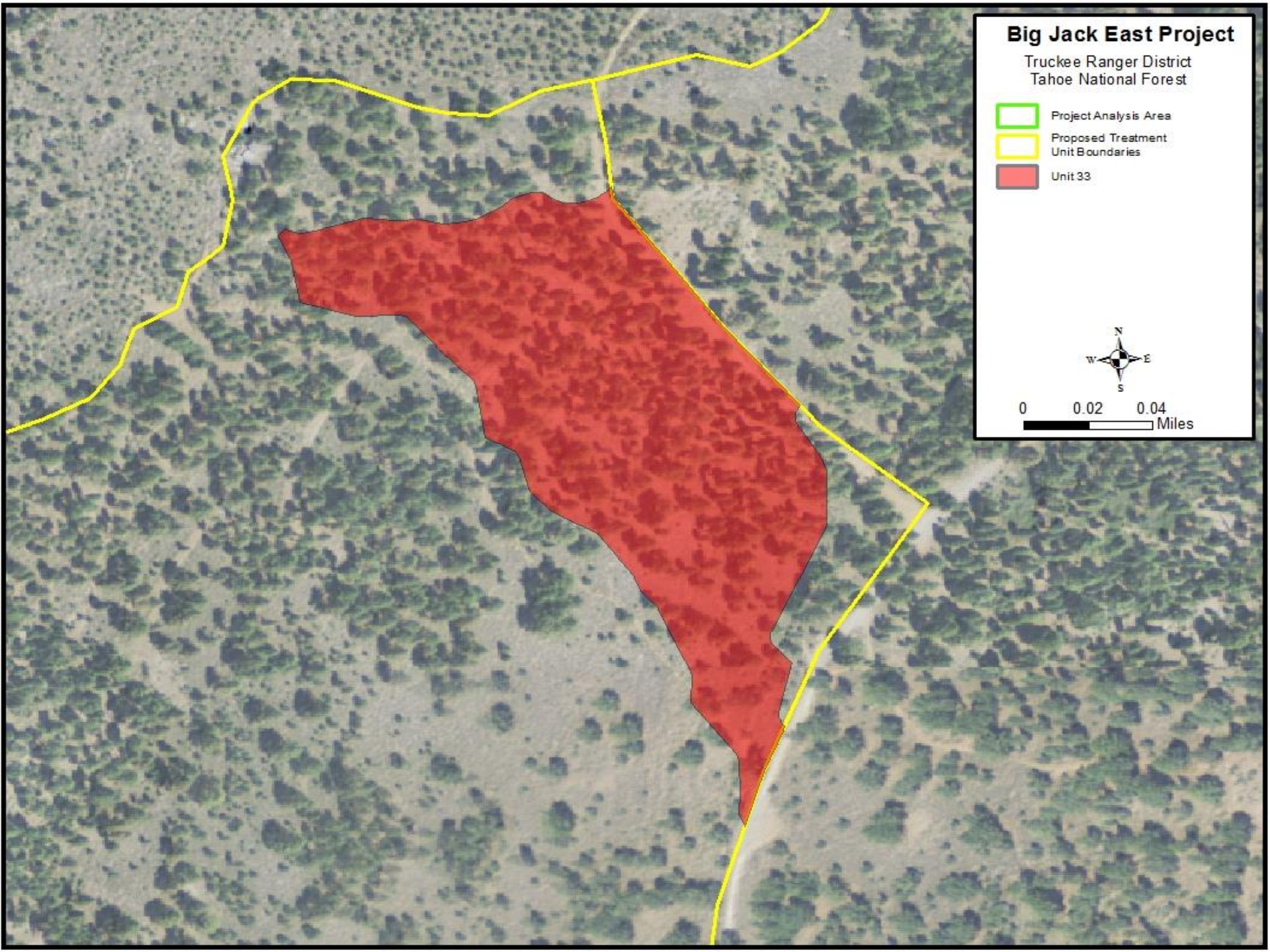
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Project Analysis Area
-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  Unit 33



0 0.02 0.04  
Miles







Credits:




Kirk Evans – USFS Remote Sensing Lab

Carlos Ramirez – USFS Remote Sensing Lab



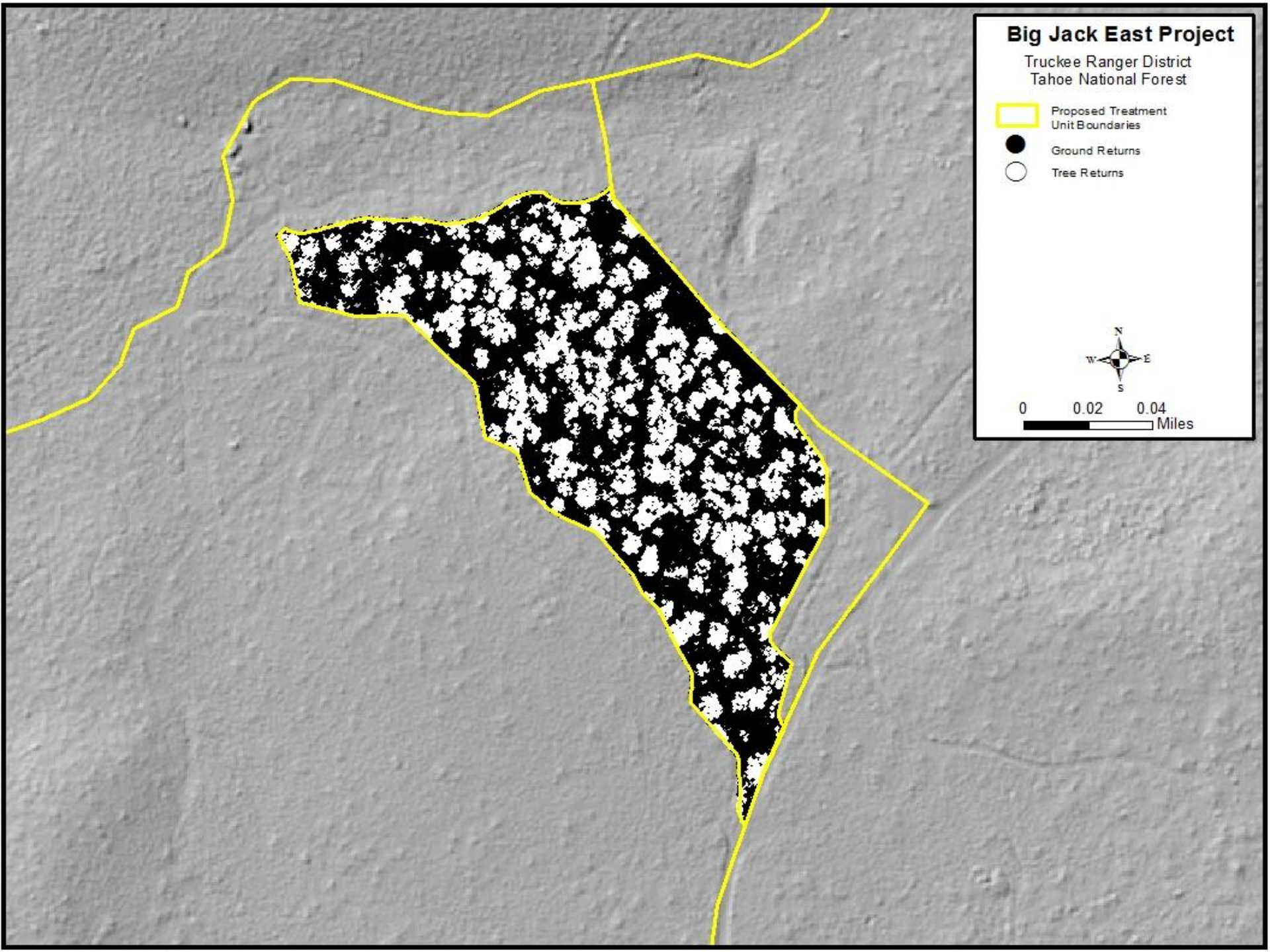
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

-  Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
-  Ground Returns
-  Tree Returns



0 0.02 0.04  
Miles





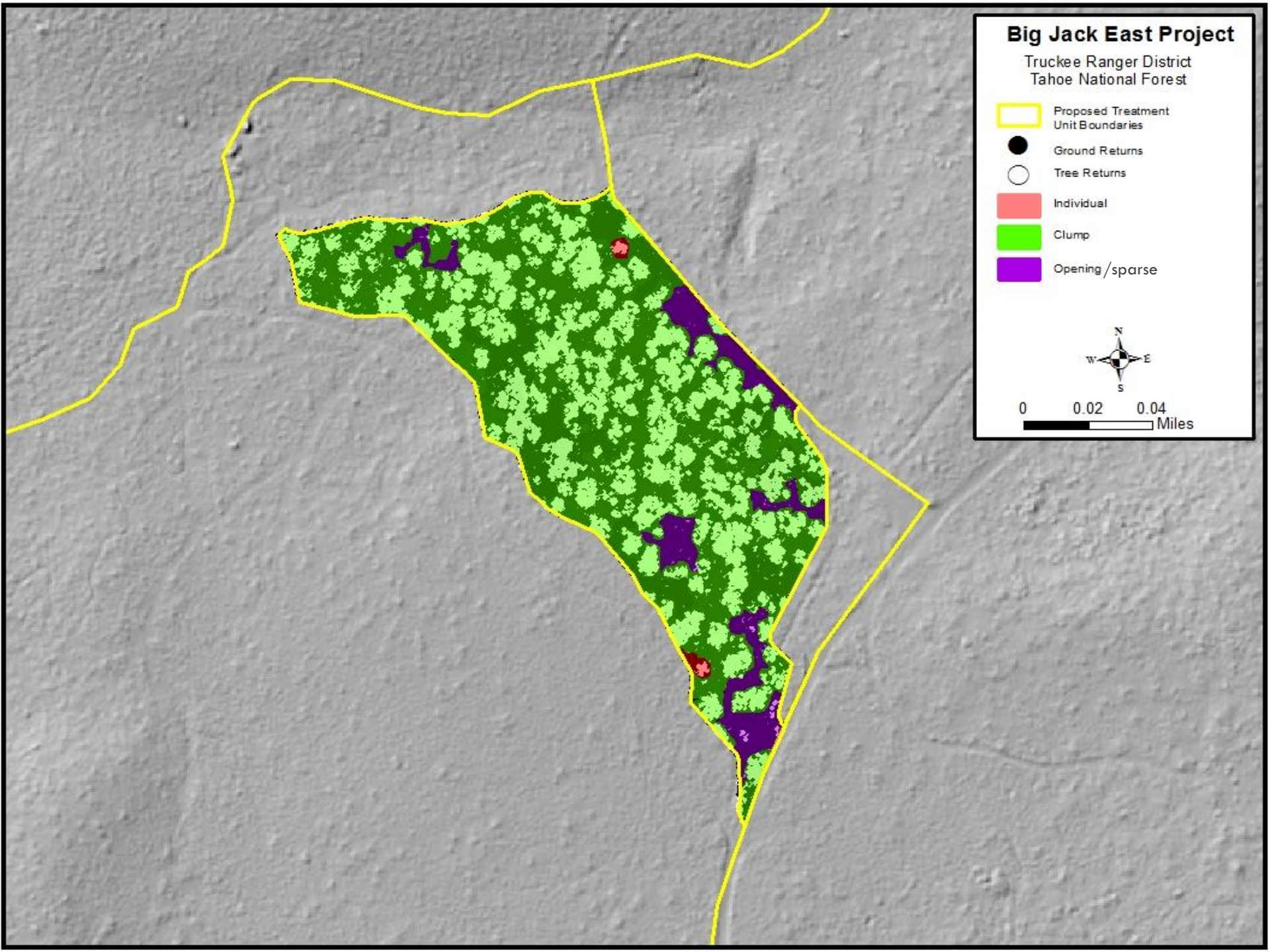
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

- Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
- Ground Returns
- Tree Returns
- Individual
- Clump
- Opening/sparse



0 0.02 0.04  
Miles







Credits:

Kirk Evans – USFS Remote Sensing Lab

Carlos Ramirez – USFS Remote Sensing Lab





Credits:

Kirk Evans – USFS Remote Sensing Lab

Carlos Ramirez – USFS Remote Sensing Lab



## Fuels Rx – Ladder Fuel Rearrangement



### Credits:

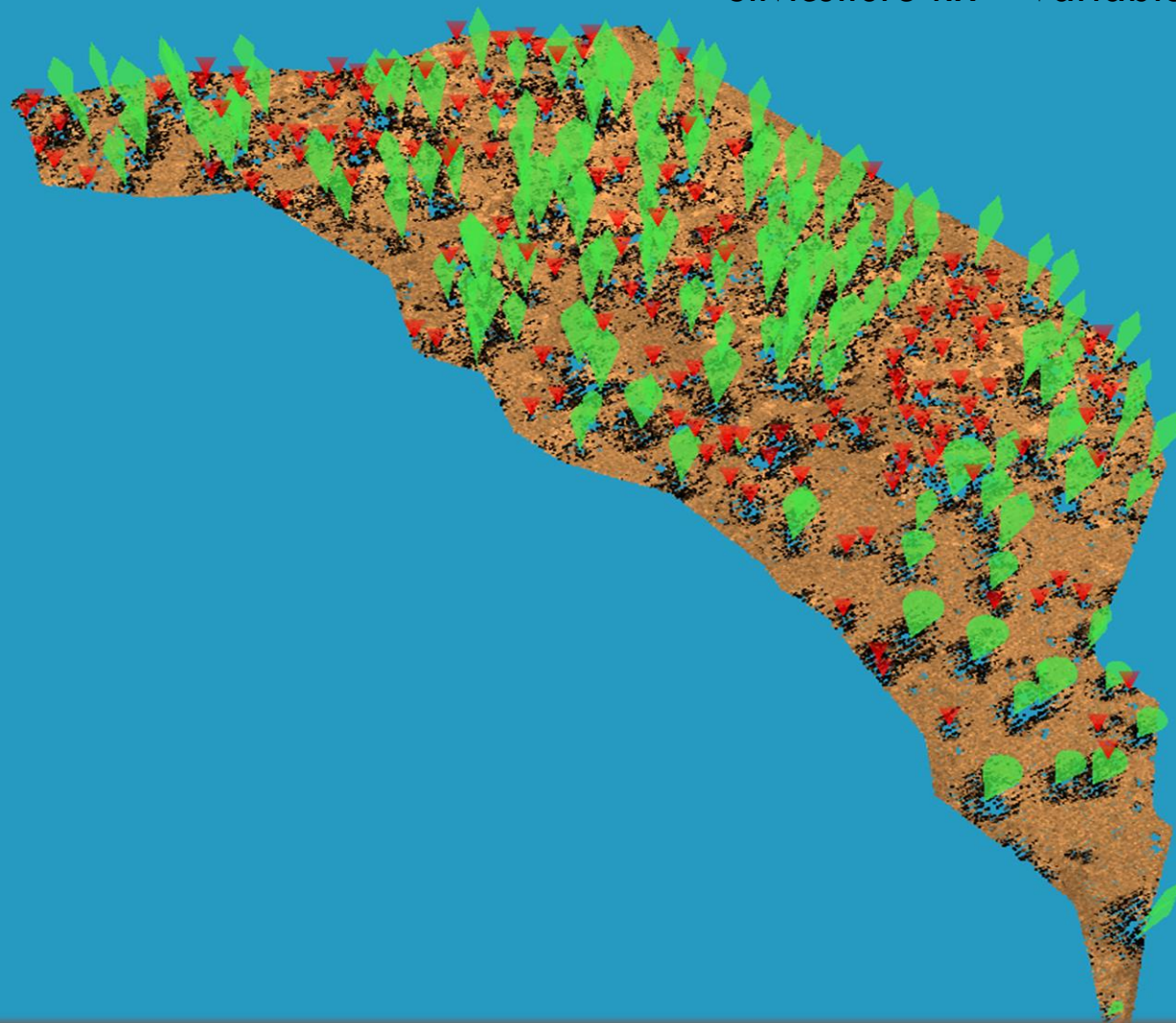
Kirk Evans – USFS Remote Sensing Lab

Carlos Ramirez – USFS Remote Sensing Lab





Fuels Rx – Ladder Fuel Rearrangement  
Silviculture Rx – Variable Density Thin



Credits:

Kirk Evans – USFS Remote Sensing Lab

Carlos Ramirez – USFS Remote Sensing Lab





Credits:

Kirk Evans – USFS Remote Sensing Lab

Carlos Ramirez – USFS Remote Sensing Lab





Credits:

Kirk Evans – USFS Remote Sensing Lab

Carlos Ramirez – USFS Remote Sensing Lab



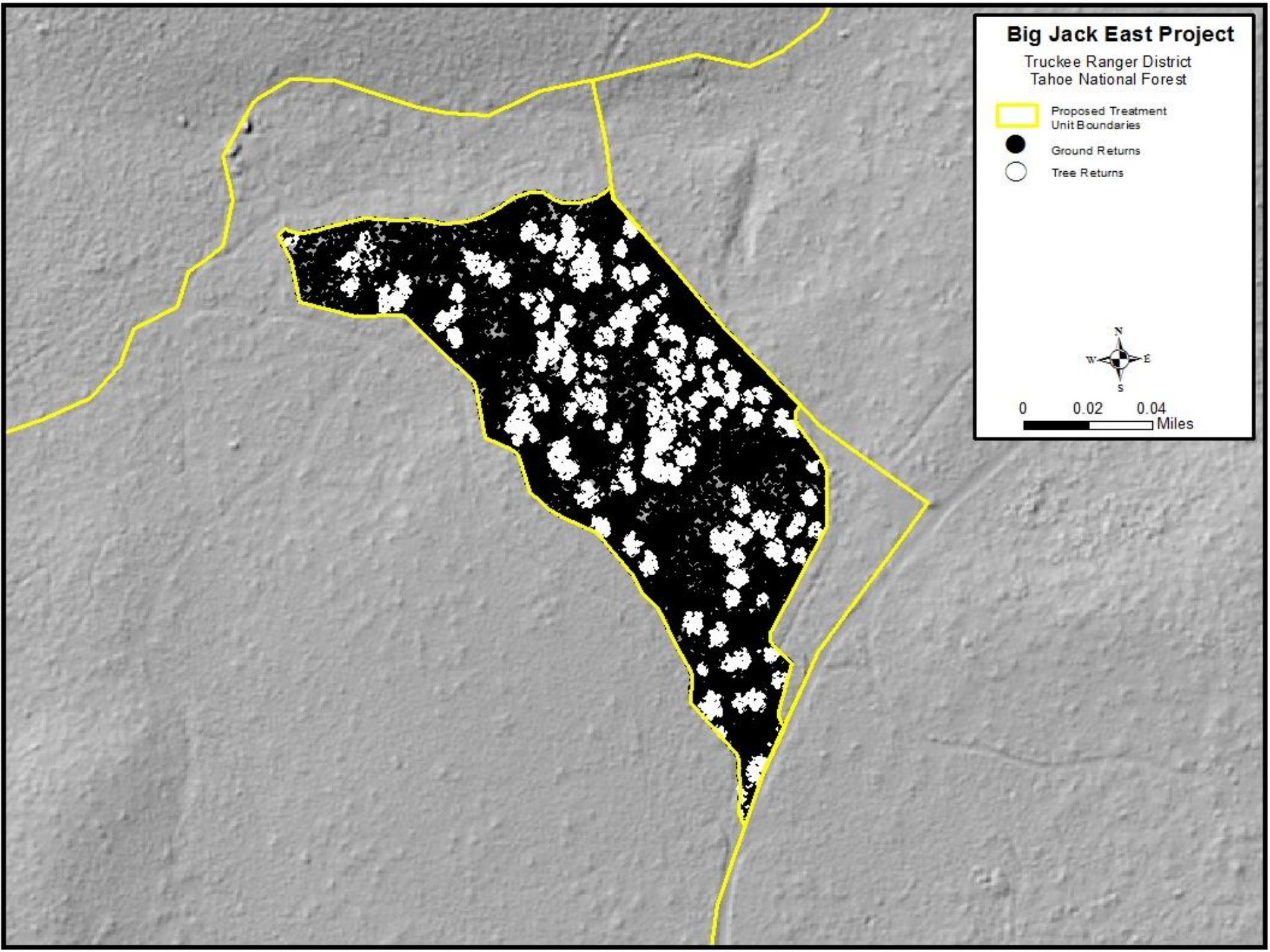
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

- Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
- Ground Returns
- Tree Returns



0 0.02 0.04 Miles





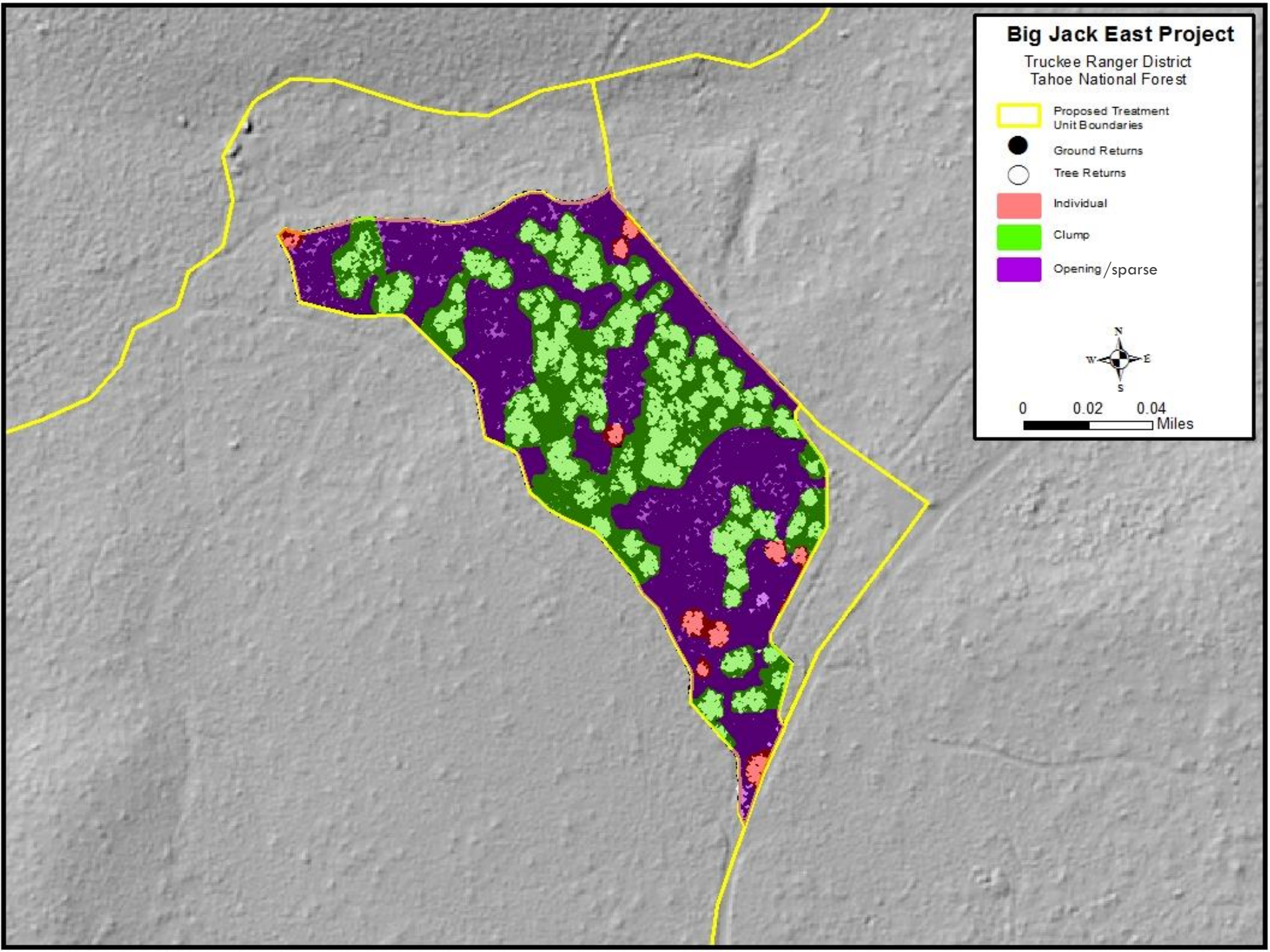
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

- Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
- Ground Returns
- Tree Returns
- Individual
- Clump
- Opening/sparse



0 0.02 0.04 Miles





## Illilouette Basin

Yosemite National Park



0 0.1 0.2 Miles





## Illilouette Basin

Yosemite National Park

- Ground Returns
- Tree Returns



0 0.1 0.2 Miles

A horizontal scale bar with three segments. The first segment is solid black and labeled '0'. The second segment is white with a black outline and labeled '0.1'. The third segment is white with a black outline and labeled '0.2'. The word 'Miles' is at the right end of the bar.



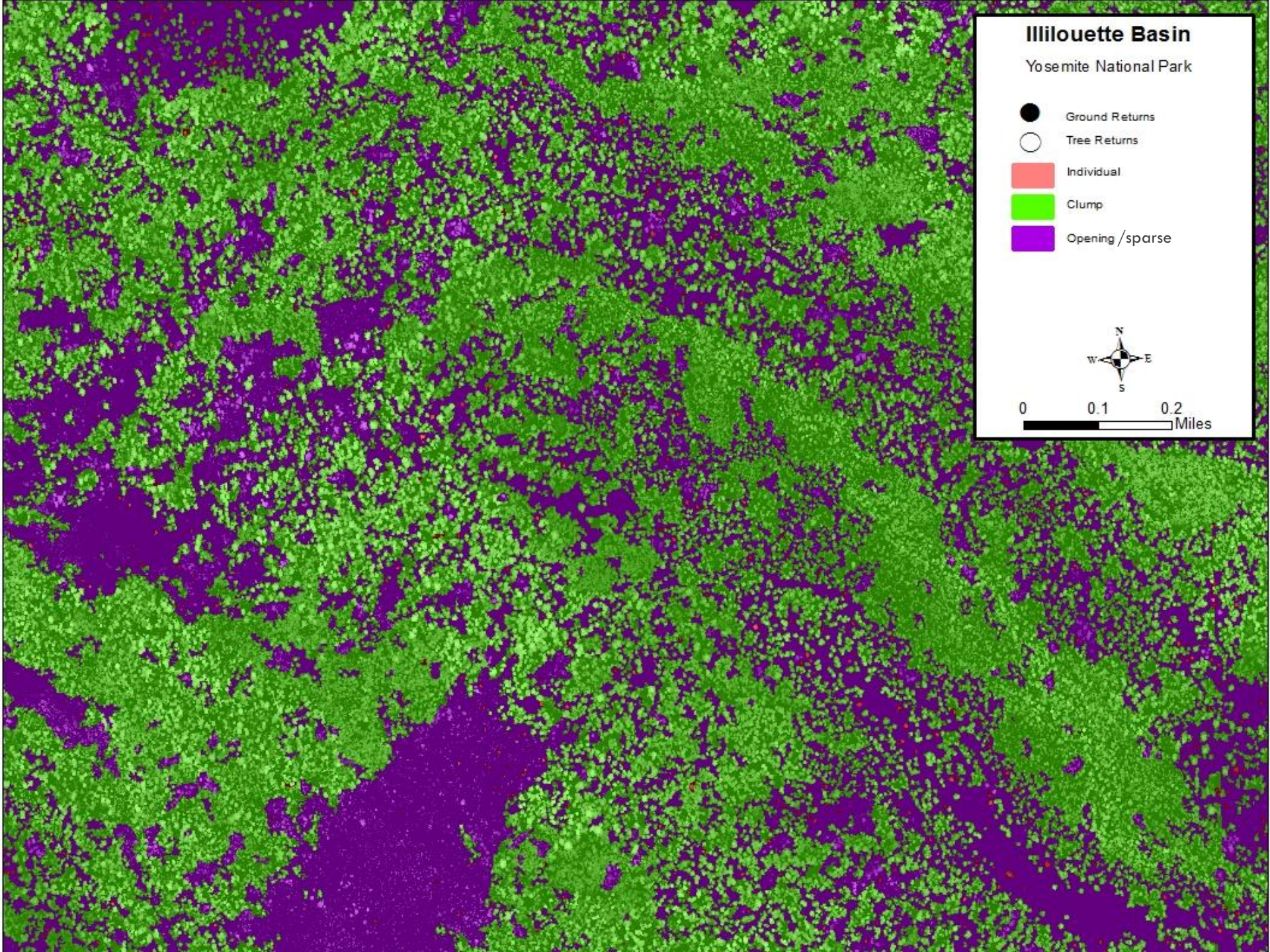
# Illilouette Basin

Yosemite National Park

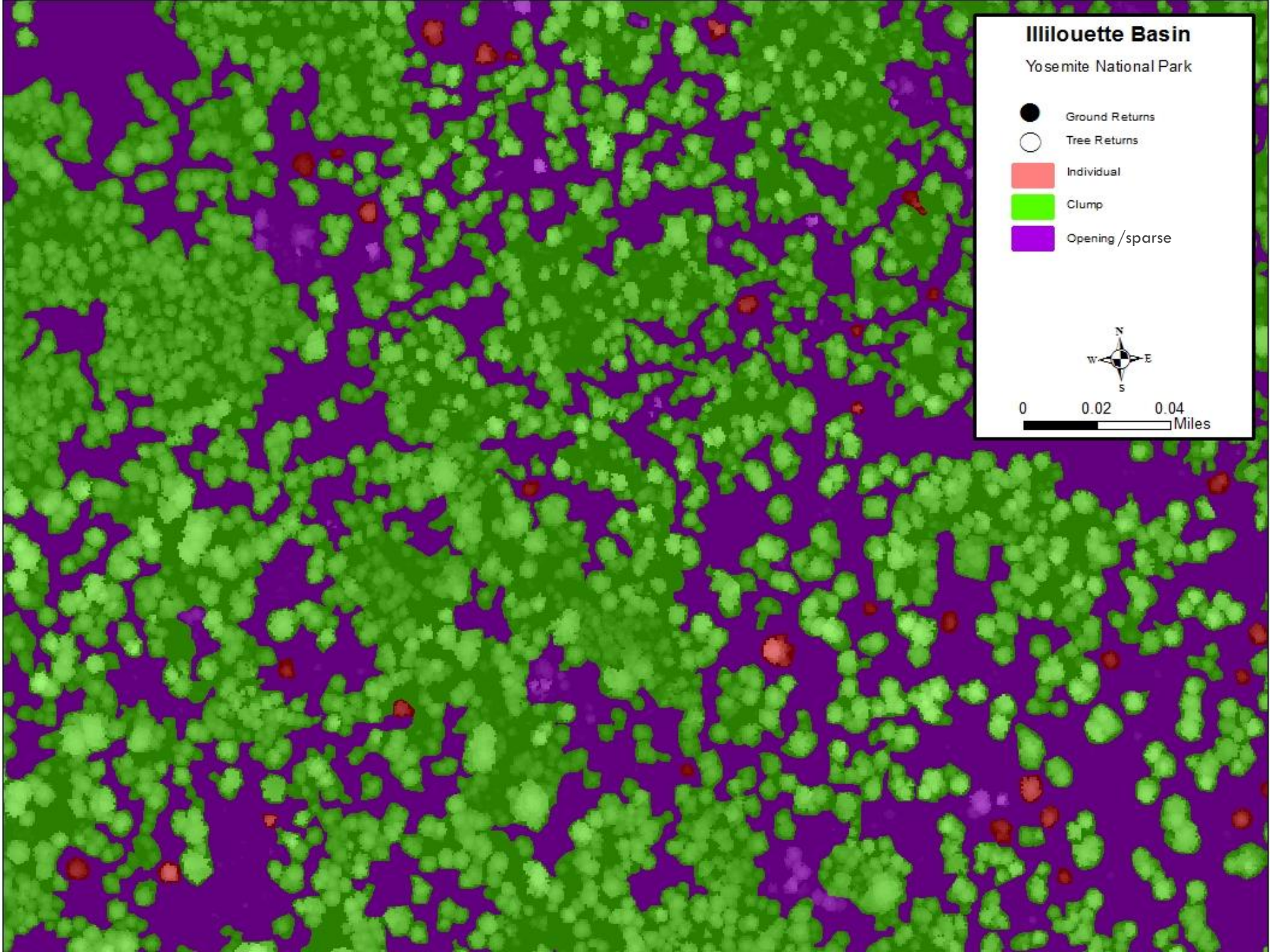
- Ground Returns
- Tree Returns
- Individual
- Clump
- Opening / sparse



0 0.1 0.2 Miles









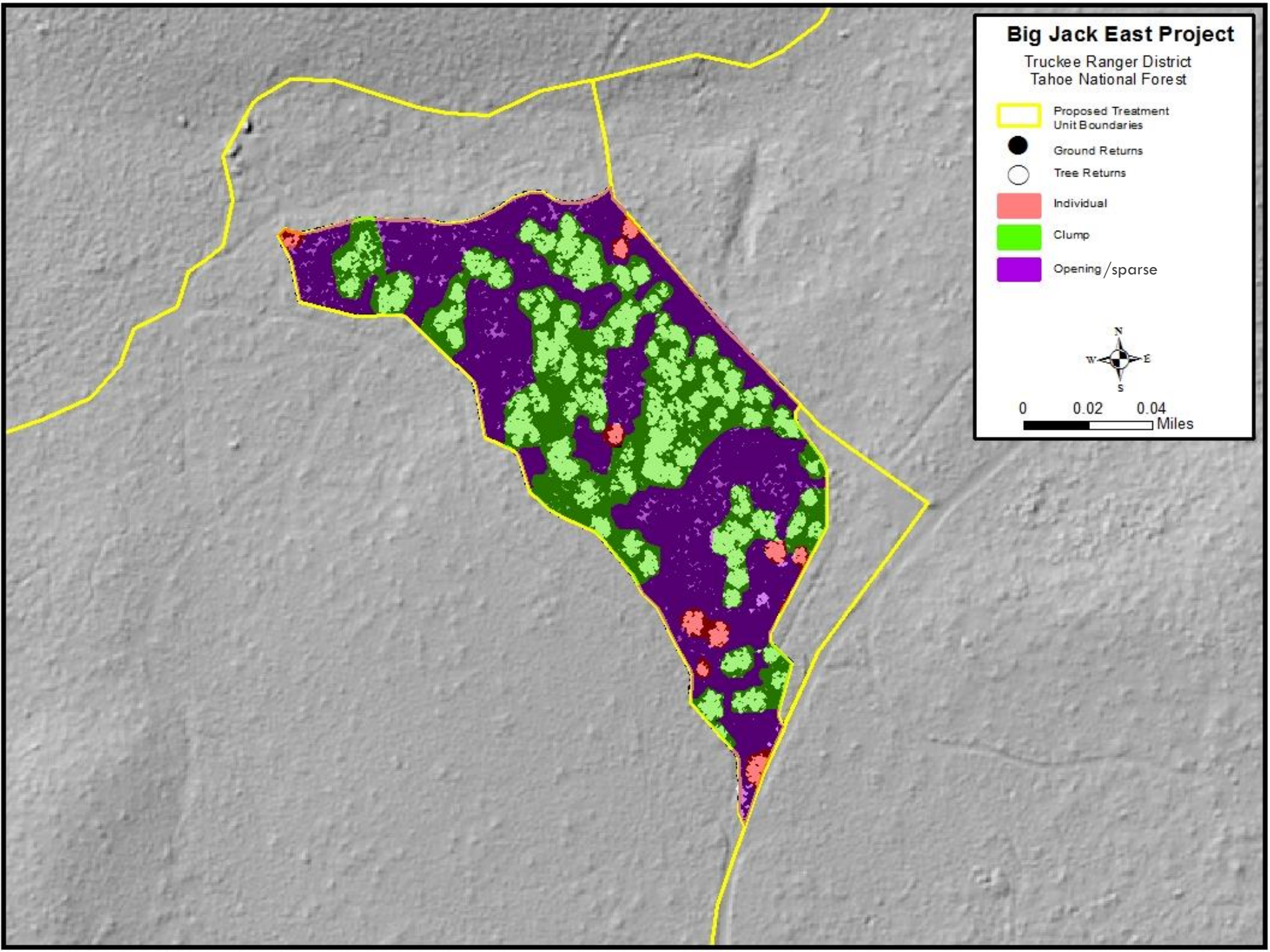
# Big Jack East Project

Truckee Ranger District  
Tahoe National Forest

- Proposed Treatment Unit Boundaries
- Ground Returns
- Tree Returns
- Individual
- Clump
- Opening/sparse



0 0.02 0.04  
Miles





# Spatial Treatment Effects

- Spatial Variable
  - Inventory
    - Individual = 0.38 TPA
    - Clump = 95%
    - Opening = 1%
  - Reference Condition
    - Individual = 1.87 TPA
    - Clump = 45%
    - Opening = 49%
  - Post treatment
    - Individual = 1.25 TPA
    - Clump = 46%
    - Opening = 50%
  - Alignment
    - Individual = - 0.62 TPA
    - Clump = + 1%
    - Opening = + 1%



## Credits:

Van Kane – University of Washington  
Derek Churchill – University of Washington



# Conclusions

- High Resolution LiDAR and it's derived products has moved from academic to practical
  - Comprehensive Individual tree data facilitates reality based treatment effects
    - Couple with visually capable software → inclusion
  - EcObject facilitates quantifiable forest structure comparisons at many scales
  - EcObject's bundled metrics and scalability can satisfy a project's diverse needs
    - Cradle to grave
    - Single source analysis
  - EcObject packaged data improves resource protection
    - Crews can survey what's important and ignore what's not
  - Focusing field work saves time → \$
    - **Project Scale Saved** (tracked for Big Jack East project)
      - Survey ~ \$35k
      - Layout ~ \$45k
      - Rx development/designation ~ \$25k
      - Stand exams/effects analysis ~ \$20k
      - NEPA analysis, appeals, litigation ??

-----

    - **\$120,000** (estimated)
- Accurate remote sensing data minimizes the need for verification → saves \$/builds trust
- A user friendly data package enables streamlined large scale analysis → saves \$/builds trust
  - **Landscape Scale Saved** (for a forest plan revision type of analysis)
    - Data capture ~ \$25k
    - Analysis ~ \$100k
    - Outputs ~ \$15k
    - Appeals, litigation ??

-----

  - **\$140,000** (estimated)





# Conclusions

## Pace and Scale?

- Improved efficiency → frees up \$ for implementation and time for new analyses
- Increased effectiveness → facilitates accurate analysis at the all scales
- The complete picture helps discover other pace and scale barriers
  - risk vs reward



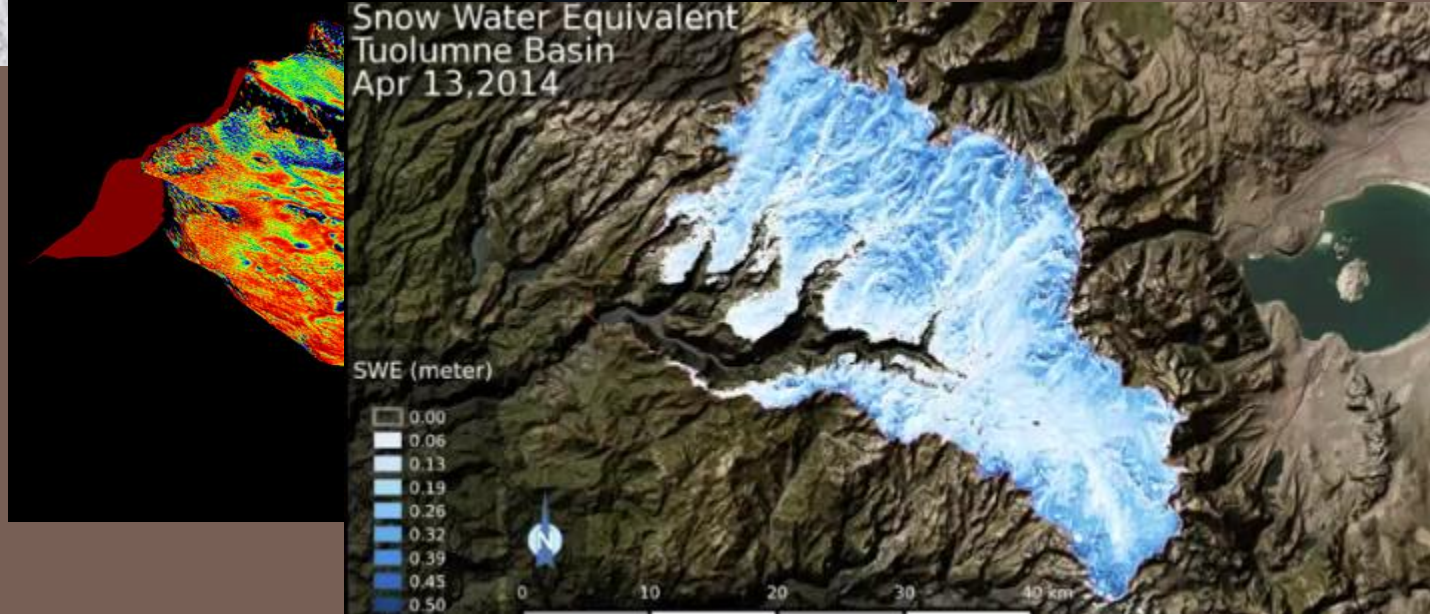
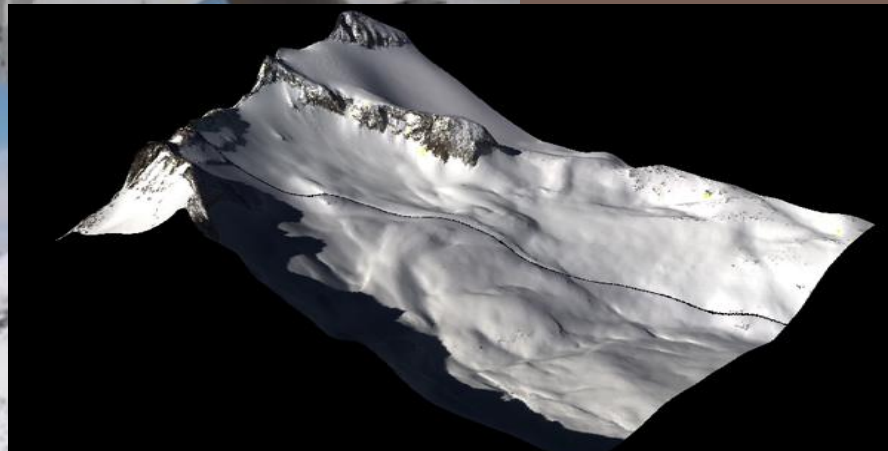


# Next Steps

- NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab – Airborne Snow Observatory
  - High resolution with Imaging Spectroscopy (hyperspectral)







Credits:  
NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab/Caltech  
Airborne Snow Observatory



# Next Steps

- NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab – Airborne Snow Observatory
  - High resolution LiDAR w/ Imaging Spectroscopy (hyperspectral)
  - Interagency Agreement (IA) signatures spring 2017
- Lassen National Forest acquisition summer 2018
- Field campaign summer 2018
- EcObject vegetation map delivery spring/early summer 2019
- Work with University of Washington on resiliency envelope - ongoing
- EcObject Improvements
  - Species identification
  - LiDAR conversion into traditional fuel metrics
  - Field validation campaign with Terrestrial LiDAR Scanning (TLS)







Surveyors hard at work





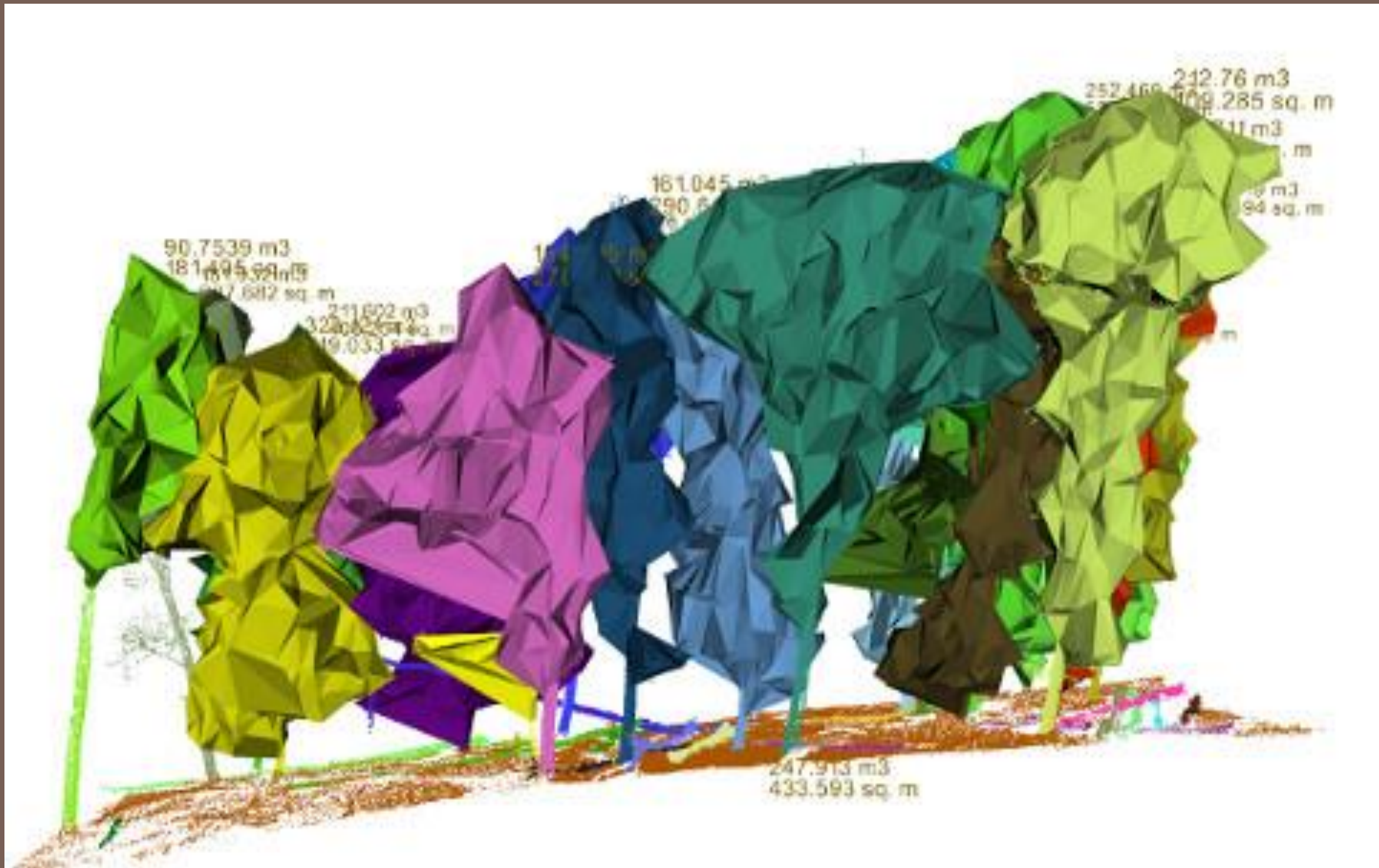
Surveyors hard at work



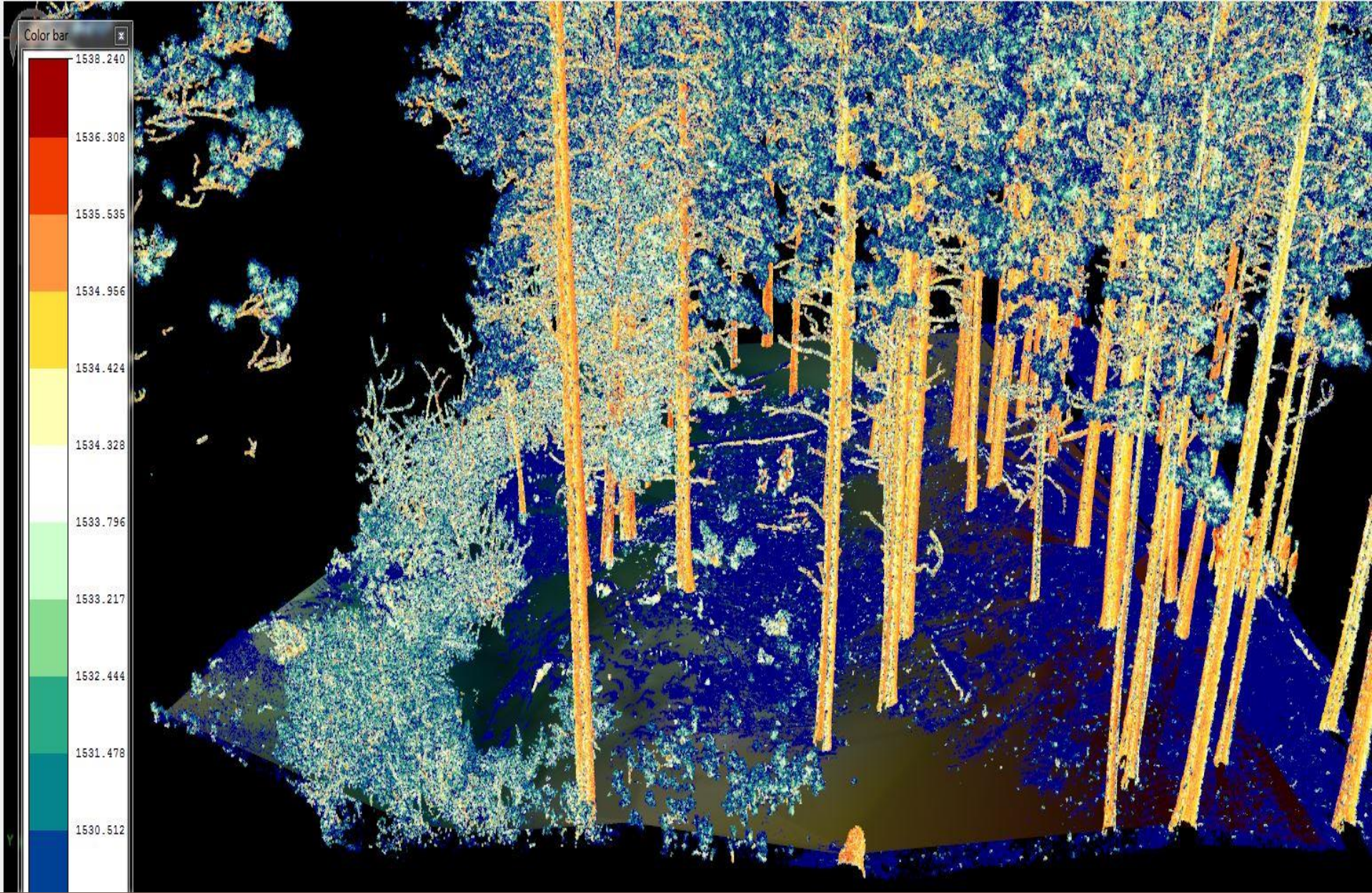












Credits:  
Riegl